

SEVEN DAYS

AIR APPARENT

PBG and STV compete
for Canadians
PAGE 14

UP IN ARMS

Corporate greenwashing
or "swords into ploughshares"?
Burlington debates
the Lockheed deal.

BY KEN PICARD, PAGE 24

VERMONT'S INDEPENDENT VOICE 10/30/01 VOL 16 NO 43

HOWDY, E-NEIGHBORS
Front Porch Forum goes rural



FIGHT OR FLIGHT
An entomophage trims hypoxia



NEW COLUMN: "LIQUID"
Caitlin Hirsch goes with the flow



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GAIL COLLINS

New York Times Op Ed Columnist



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Lieutenant General John F. Kelly, United States Marine Corps, will share his experience as the Commanding General of the Multi-National Force—West in Iraq from February 2008 to February 2009. He was promoted to Lt. Gen., assumed command of Marine Forces Reserve and Marine Forces North in October 2009.

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Tuesday, February 15, 7 p.m.
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Cynthia Enloe currently serves as a professor in the Department of International Development, Community, and Environment at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. She is also the Director of Clark University's Women Studies program and a frequent lecturer. In addition to serving as an editor for such scholarly journals as *Signs* and the International Feminist Journal of Politics, Cynthia Enloe has written nine books, mostly published by the University of California Press. Much of Enloe's research careers on women's place in national and international politics. Her books cover a wide range of issues encompassing gender-based discrimination as well as racial, ethnic and national identities.

School of Social Sciences presents
Panel discussion (guests to be announced)
"Sustainability – A National Security Issue"
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hunting a Northeast
state for two houses — and a neighbor
found houses for
the big competition.



**WINTER
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Enough cold weather
to keep us warm
and us sing "Winter
Wonderland" after
Christmas?



COLD CALCULATION
More than 1,000
people planned
to take a dip in Lake
Memphrey to raise
money for the
Special Olympics
Regional Festival.



QUITTING TIME?
A few weeks before
the administration
leaves the building,
the Senate's energy
committee proposed
a bill to end subsidies
for coal. That was the day.



PROUD CHIEF
Pauline Berling
and her administration
leaved the building
last week with a
sense of pride.



NEW
for 2011

That's how one Middlebury College
student wrote about his
winter vacation to Alexander,
Egypt, this year.

The students were
assassinated back to
the United States

Two weeks after
political protests
rocked the nation,

22



TOP FIVE

Most popular stories in the last week

- 1 **"Why Poor Vermont Workers' Growth Will Be Larger Next Year"** by Greg Shultz: Four students from Peru came to the U.S. for "summer school" and will stay their entire academic year.
- 2 **"Burke's Upfront: Proposed Hikes"** by Andy Sisson: Some state employees are threatening to leave. But right-on-top proposed new regulations
- 3 **"The Seven Days' Delays"** by Lauren Dier: Instead of the seven days of the Seven Days' walk-up time of spring, a six-day state
- 4 **"Capital Pain"** by Alice Lyles: The constantly evolving legislature outlays nearly \$1 billion in spending on a disclosed state health division.
- 5 **"Magic Hat Protests Its Own Energy — With Beer"** by Lauren Dier: A Vermont brewery has been turned into something



tweet of the week:

Shultz
New Lynd experiments
with electric
cars. Upfront is the
newspaper. Defense
is back, and the
Bills are back [REDACTED]



PHOTO BY JEFFREY BROWN



Last weekend, while many Vermonters were shoveling or digging, or
knowing four teams of local artists were sculpting it.

The annual Vermont State Snow Sculpting Competition on
Church Street was part of Burlington's Winter Festival celebration.
Contestants had three days to complete their entries.

Snow sculpting veterans Michael Nedell, Brooke Herite and Alex
Dastic — aka Vermont Shapers — once again took home with them
"Connection" (see photo), their team has won seven times in
the past decade, most recently in 2009. The two will represent
Vermont at next year's nationals in Wisconsin.

"Everyone's done it; everyone's made a snowman," says Nedell. "This
is just [an] advanced snowman."

blogeworthy last week...



2/1 Paula Recalde
is leaving an ethanol
trade association and
joining Neste Corp.



2/1 President Barack
Obama (right) phones
former Sen. Jim
Peter Welch.



2/7 The Vermont
Legislature's cold
weather allows for
outdoor networking.



2/8 At the Lake Champlain
Ciderhouse, 14th
annual Cider
Festival.



2/8 American
International
Film Festival
begins.



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SEVEN DAYS

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7

FEEDback

READER REACTION TO RECENT ARTICLES

WHITE PLAINS CORPORATION

By Pauline Polito & Paula Bocely

REPRINTED FROM THE *PEOPLES POLITICAL* - Pauline Polito & Paula Bocely

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Pauline Polito

Don Baker, Orville Hovey, Gail Roberts

ANDREW BROWN, Maryann Brown

MARK COOPER

ROBERT COOPER, Lorraine Goss, Ken French

POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: Tom Flynn

STAFF WRITERS: Michael Jones

ARTICLES: Michael Jones, Alan Lovett

CALENDAR: Jennifer Corliss

COLUMNAIRS: David L. Lovell

CONVERSATIONS: Diane Lovell

ENTERTAINMENT: Jim O'Neill

ENTERTAINMENT: Ken Woods

BELIEF IN PROGRESSION

BY ROBERT COOPER

REPRINTED FROM *PEOPLES POLITICAL*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Tom Flynn

CHEAP SHOT

You aimed low ("Young Loser," January 24). Realize that if Johnson is going to kill himself, the method is irrelevant. Real "scary" is a political, reactionary piece of trash that avoids the truth and the laws that the kid looks to kill himself.

Try research next time.

Arthur Vercillo
BURLINGTON

BT BUSTED?

Shay Totten's reporting on Burlington Telecom is telling. It seems the concern is that he exposed at the city council to do everything possible to salvage a flawed business plan. OK, I think everyone can get behind that logic, but we still need to know whether costs are escalating or really under control ("Fair Game," February 2) makes it clear we're not getting the full picture yet, just the spin that's no doubt essential if outside investors are to be brought in.

The question is that no one seems to have answered is how BT's business plan can be viable when the highest density area, i.e., downtown, has been mostly wasted. We know a former head of BT went on record saying he wanted to expand to South Burlington. That should have signaled something. Why expand there before taking on downtown Burlington, where the biggest number of customers can be found with the shortest distance of fiber optic? As a downtown business owner without BT service, my suspicion is that that is where the whole business plan broke down. If the cost of laying fiber optic in the downtown core was always a budget breaker and a constraint, the question we need to ask is whether BT's business plan was ever viable.

Bill Dodge
BURLINGTON

LOCATION, LOCATION

Oh, how I love the lack of information in this article ("Double Dishes," January 26). Great writeup on the new Right Life Cafe, but, of course, no location info, except for some vague reference to an old Adam's market in Winooski.

As someone who is still a local to the area, details are important. Please, in the future, print an actual address.

Tim McManam
BURLINGTON

Editor's note: We thought McManam's Bay Avenue in Winooski would suffice, since it's only a few blocks long. But the actual street address is 55 McManam's Bay Avenue.

PAY MORE, LITTER LESS

Why don't they raise the deposit amount? ("Is Vermont's Bottle Bill Ready for Recycling?" January 26)? It will make recreational (but legal) beverages more expensive initially and it will increase incentive to return the bottles. This will increase pocket money for people who collect bottles, increase charity money for the bottle deposit centers and keep our state cleaner.

Mark Palmer
VERMONT

DON'T BEAT UP ON BERNIE

Regarding Shay Totten's "Bernie's Backlash" ("Fair Game," January 19), I, for one, was grateful to get the senator's e-memo in the wake of the Tucson tragedy, as it provided context and pointed out that such a horrific event didn't occur in a vacuum. Berners never afraid to speak some dirty truths, in this case pointing out the culpability borne by certain conservative individuals from the Republican right, individuals who think the phrase "shutting windows" amounts to a license to shoot them out. Those from that faction who blame Bernie now should come clean themselves by admitting that, under our prior president, their party led us not only into a more violent society at home but also into wars abroad — not to mention the worst economic situation since the time of Hoover.

Could Bernie have been more careful in his framing and approach? Perhaps. However, there's no reason for our beloved senator to be so thoroughly boxed — that just plain sticks.

Russ Wens
PLATTEVILLE

BARRE ALL

I love this story ("Raising the Barre," January 19) and the idea that the door isn't really closed to low zone

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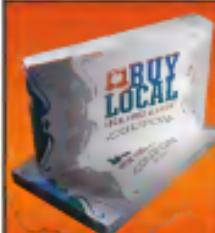
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- March 11: Bolton Valley
- March 18: Pico Mountain
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- April 1: Jay Peak

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MUST SEE, MUST DO THIS WEEK

COMPILED BY CATHRYN FOX



MONDAY 11 The Cat's Meow

It's a Valentine's Day with a touch of fury this Friday, as the 10th year of *The Cat's Meow* — the annual, satirically Cat-themed art show — returns to the Flynn, a relative newcomer, and since it features 170-plus artists from 30 states, it's a little like a state-of-the-art art fair. Andrew Lloyd Webber's standards such as "Ev'rything's Coming Up Roses" and "Memory" are just a few of the tracks you'll hear as the Flynn's 10th anniversary kicks off.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 32



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FRIDAY 11
Shoe-in

It's a Friday night in and out of fashion, but don't let the wheels off your feet. *It's Jeane & the 101 Tapes* — from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. — at the Central Vermont winter wonderland at Chittenden Music Hall, bring on the toe-tapping toes. *It's Tapes* (which) "brings new life to old-style tap dancing," says the band's leader, Dennis "D-Tap" Moyer, in many forms of tapography and, yes, yes, yes.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 32

TUESDAY 12 Shake It Up

Find the 30th anniversary White Christmas Concert, December 10, at the Flynn, featuring *Barbary Coast*, *Essential*, a supersonic big band, and a troupe inspired by the work of Alvin Cuban, presented by the Flynn's Oldest Show.

There are jazz, pop, jazz, rock, working-class rock, swing, and everything else, a blending of styles. *1944 Tap* (9 p.m.) jazz and swing music can just offer a few expressions of the same culture. *White Christmas Concert* DECEMBER 10, 7:30 P.M. FLYNN THEATRE, BURLINGTON. SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 32

SUNDAY 13 Hump Day

It's *Hammered*, get to an early *Hammered* (at the Flynn) — 9:30 a.m. — to see the 10th annual *Hammered* in the park. Hammered is an endurance贺拉斯挑战赛 (the *Hammered* Challenge) on Sunday, a 25-kilometer high-country traverse around the perimeter that can take anywhere from three to 48 hours to complete. (Something's not a record.) See a *Hammered* team support the Vermont chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 32

THURSDAY 13 Sweet and Sour

Chocolate isn't always hot, sometimes it's just bitter. That's what is *Belinda Bensoussan and Max Matisse's 2010 documentary* "A Dark Side of Chocolate" argues. With healthiness everywhere, the film explores illegal child labor in Ivory Coast cacao plantations. —From *Foodie* (the *Foodie* blog — with *Foodie* author Sandra Lee) — *Just one more* to give that Valentine's Day chocolate box another thought.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 32

TUESDAY 15 Who Let the Dogs Out?

Prily based indie-pop rockers *Brig* tip their hats to the '90s at the Higher Grounds (10 p.m., \$10). First Avenue (8 p.m., \$10) features *Locomotive* (try to get to the show) — the six vetted girls who sing different looks. "Strong voices and rough harmonies that bring up a bunch of energetic kids with sloppy girls and wild schedules," writes *SouthShore*.

SEE CLUB SPOTLIGHT ON PAGE 26

WEDNESDAY 16 Color Wheel

Two art books provide a welcome introduction to the prints of winter. *Color Wheel* (10 a.m. to 4 p.m., \$15) at the Flynn, featuring *Color* (Val Bensoussan and John Petroni-Johnson) come for the human experience through painted abstracts. The former explores the fragmented quality of life through shades of blue, green, pink and orange; the latter uses large-scale blues and blues to represent emotions of the heart. Color us intrigued.

SEE ART REVIEW ON PAGE 89

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The Fix Is In

GOT PETER SHUMARD's ambitious health care reform bill come out on Tuesday and the big document will likely keep lawmakers busy reading all week.

Leading the reform effort is **STACEY KIMBALL**, one of the state's most successful lobbyists. He's now commissioner of the Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration, which oversees some of the same insurance companies Kimball once represented.

Does Kimball have a conflict of interest, or is he the government guy best equipped to play ball with his former employer?

"I ask people to judge me on my current actions," said Kimball.

State offices often require Kimball to have his name removed from any lobbying or law firm. On January 4, 2011, Kimball's former firm — Kimball Sherman and Ellis — renamed itself **KSE Partners, LLP**.

But a law firm connected to the lobbying firm — Kimball Sherman, Buckley Hughes LLP — still sprang Kimball's name on its members in a Monday. It was removed immediately after "Fair Game" imagined about it; by Tuesday the firm had been rechristened Sherman Buckley Hughes LLP.

Roads aheaded by "Fair Game" show that Kimball's name — along with the name of his newly-espoused general counsel **DAVE PETERSON** — has shown up in communication between **RONALD HORN**, a member of Kimball's former law firm, and **BISHCA** staff over the past two months. Probably just an oversight, but **BISHCA** staff felt uncomfortable getting emails from a firm with their new home name on it. Peterson had worked at Kimball's law firm, Buckley himself used to work at **BISHCA**, during Gov. **HOWARD** Smith's tenure as gov.

Kimball has no remaining stock in either firm, said **KSE Partners** principal **KIMBALL**.

But there's more. Back in 2010, when Shumard hired Kimball, the apparent precipitated the eventual firing of six — or 10 — **BISHCA** lawyers. At least five of them happened to be state regulators who led the charge to fine and prosecute some of Kimball's former clients — including five out-of-state, **Mac Cross**-related companies: **Amherst**, **Mac Cross** in New Hampshire and New York-based **Excellus**. The out-of-state

lawyers fired for selling insurance in Vermont without a license and not providing some of Vermont's substantially mandated coverage, including mental health services.

Amherst was fined \$100,000; Excellus, \$400,000.

Kimball's firm tried to get Excellus' fine reduced to \$75,000, but **BISHCA** attorney **ROBERT LARSON** wouldn't negotiate. It's his gone now from **BISHCA**.

PETER SHUMARD, former deputy general counsel, filed regulatory action against Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont in two cases to sue like request, and the \$6.25 million reinsurance package handed over to former CEO **WILLIAM HORN JR.** The retirement payout enraged consumers and law makers, along with **BISHCA** regulators. Commissioner **PAULINE THIBAULT** ruled

A NEW TEAM OF LAWYERS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN BRINGING IN NEW COMMISSIONERS

STEVE KIMBALL
BISHCA COMMISSIONER

that **BCBSVT** overpaid **MacCross** by \$14 million. As a result, the state ordered **BCBSVT** to return \$5 million to subscribers in the form of lower, or less-than-expected, premiums.

Thibault and Shumard and Kimball may have hindered their efforts to reform the state's health care system by firing this select group of regulatory attorneys who have extensive knowledge of past reform efforts as well as the new federal health care law.

"These are very strong people who had nothing but the best interests of Vermonters," Thibault told "Fair Game." "We always operated with very little, if any, interference from the governor's office in protecting its citizens, and that's the way it should be."

Kimball dismisses the theory that firing these particular attorneys will hurt reform efforts at the **ability** of **BISHCA** to be a strong regulator.

"This had nothing to do with individual competency," said Kimball. "This was all about looking for favor."

Kimball and Shumard's administration wanted a different team on board

to ensure they could carry out the governor's ambitious health care agenda. The also said attorneys aren't always necessary during shifts in administration.

"I think that is a false notion," Kimball said. "We are a government of laws, and lawyers are very much part of the political process. In many cases, a new team of lawyers is more important than bringing in new commissioners."

More With More

Former Gov. **GOV. GREGORY DOBERRY** often said Vermonters should get used to a government doing "less with less." Gov. Peter Shumard's motto seems to be closer to "More with more."

A report provided to "Fair Game" by the Department of Human Resources shows that Shumard's got his own stimulus program going for state top apprentices.

Ag Secretary **DAVE HORN** is earning \$15,000, compared to predecessor **SHANE ALLIARD**'s salary of \$105,000. Commerce Secretary **LAWRENCE HELLER** is taking home \$115,000, previous secretary **KEVIN MCNAMEE** pulled down \$104,000. Natural Resources Secretary **JO MARSHALL** is earning \$105,000 annually, up from the \$104,000 earned by **ANDREW WOOD**.

Administration Secretary **JEAN SPARBER** and Transportation Secretary **MARK HARRIS** are earning \$105,000, the same as their predecessors — **ROB LANGEVIN** and **DAVID HARRIS**, respectively.

Human Services Secretary **DEB RALINE** is earning \$105,000 — less than outgoing Secretary **BOB HORN**, who was earning \$120,000. Meanwhile, **ROB WOOD**, the new commissioner of the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living, is getting \$115,000 a year, his predecessor **JEAN HERRICK** earned \$100,000.

A few other select commissioners are earning more than those before them. Fish and Wildlife Commissioner **PATRICK HORN** and Forest, Parks and Recreation Commissioner **MICHAEL TIPPER** are both making \$80,000 apiece, up from the \$79,000 earned by **WENDE LARSON** and **SARAH CLARK**. Environmental Conservation Commissioner **GARRETT HERR** is getting \$92,000 apiece from **AYRTON JOHNSON**'s \$62,000. Johnson is staying on as **MacCross**' deputy or his old salary.

The biggest jump: **BISHCA** Commissioner Steve Kimball is bringing home \$122,000. His predecessor, **PAULINE THIBAULT**, earned \$82,000. Pealette

Airport Envy: Can PBG Compete With BTV?

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

Last month, Sport Airline was charging 22 bucks to fly from here to Fort Lauderdale. But there was a catch: You had to join a club to qualify for the low fare. And "low" wasn't BTV; it was PBG — code for Lansburgh International Airport.

Less than four years after its conversion from a U.S. Strategic Air Command base to a civil aviation facility, Lansburgh is stirring up its engines. The airport is plotting improvements that could attract many more Canadian travelers as well as Vermonters. That would mean real competition for BTV.

PBG is still dwarfed by its Vermont counterpart — 22 miles northeast at the place that only four airlines currently operate out of Pittsburgh, all of them on a charter basis, which means their schedules can change from day to day. The casual flyer has probably heard of only one of PBG's carriers — US Airways Express — while BTV hosts five airlines whose names are well known in American skies: Continental, Delta, JetBlue, United and US Airways. BTV also attracts seven times as many departing passengers as does PBG 670,000 to mere 96,000 in 2010.

Thus said, BTV — the only major airport between Albany and Montreal — is not exactly flying high these days. The airport has lost carriers, such as AirTran, as well as routes to Newark's Logan Airport.

Financial prospects have dimmed, too. In the last year alone, Moody's Investors Service twice downgraded BTV's credit rating, in the process where bonds are now categorized as junk status. That dip was due in part to the airport's 10 percent drop in passenger counts over the past two years. According to Moody's, BTV's creditworthiness has also been tarnished by an association with the city of Burlington, which at turns has had as hand rating, studied as a byproduct of the Burlington Telecom debate.

PBG, by contrast, is reaching up. Bearings more than doubled last year and are projected to grow 50 percent this year, to a total of 150,000. The number will reach a quarter-million 20 years hence, according to calculations endorsed by the Federal Aviation Administration, although PBG manager Tim Long says, "We actually expect to do a lot better than that."

The Lansburgh surpox has enormous potential for expansion. It sits on a former base that covers almost 3,000 acres — nearly four times the size of the area encompassed by BTV. It fails to handle heavy bombers, the Lansburgh field includes a runway that's more than two miles long and had been main-



Burlington International Airport (Courtesy BIA/2010) (Photo by Kevin J. Kelley)

AVIATION

list of airports leading sites for NASA's space shuttle.

With a fireplace in its big-walled atrium, PBG's 20,000-square-foot terminal looks hamey — and decidedly unrefined at first look, on a recent weekday morning. The huge expanse of tarmac outside the terminal was devoid of airplanes, but with only one security checkpoint and a single JetBlue. Long complaints, it patrolled at certain times of day. "We're going to be too crowded to here," he predicts while leading a reporter on a tour of the terminal. "We've got no idle space."

PBG is hoping to get some FAA money to double the size of its terminal, a project that could get underway next year. The FAA provided \$40 million to finance conversion to civilian use of the USA Air Force base that closed in 1995. The field also subsidizes US Airways PBG leases service to the tune of \$1.5 million a year through a program that enables small airports around the country to connect with hubs. In the eyes of BTV's former aviation director, Brian Sturte, all that money flowing from Washington to PBG amounts to a form of unfair competition. He told us much as an air referee last year.

But Lansburgh isn't apologizing. Instead, it's ramping up efforts to attract customers from metropolitan Montreal. Quebec and Ontario account for 90



percent of the passengers departing from Lansburgh, most of them en route to Florida or Allegro Air, their Air BTV's sister airline. They're attracted by comparatively cheap fares to warm-weather destinations. The March price for Sport's round-trip flight to Fort Lauderdale is now \$275, tax included — still a big savings over the \$538 it would cost to leave from Montreal.

Canada heavily taxes air travel, which helps explain why Canadians make up 40 percent of BTV's departing passengers. PBG is going after the same customer by傍ing itself as "Montreal's U.S. airport."

The drive from Montreal to Lansburgh's airport is about 30 minutes shorter than the drive to BTV. Parking also has been free in PBG's 1,000-car parking lot, though drivers will soon be charged \$5 a day for a space near the terminal and \$3 for a spot further away. It costs \$12 a day to park in BTV's garage.

In addition to its flights to baliop seattle, PBG offers three daily service to Boston. BTV's service to Logan ended three years ago — a victim, says Burlington's new director of aviation, Bob McRae, of the heightened security introduced following the 2001 terror attacks. "It got to be so much

Burlington

Plattsburgh

Number of departing passengers in 2010:

676,000 95,000

Passenger growth rate, 2008 to 2010:

-10% 100%

Percentage of Canadian passengers:

40 90

Drive time from Montreal:

113 minutes

81 minutes

Number of airlines:

5

4

Runway length:

8320 feet

10758 feet

Number of charter carriers:

1

4

Airport acreage:

240

3500

Daily parking rate:

\$12

\$5 or \$3 (as of March 6)

of a bus that a lot of people just started driving to Boston rather than flying," he comments.

Burlington-area residents bound for Boston will soon want to driving rather than flying from Plattsburgh. PBG manager Long estimates that Vermonters account for only 7 percent of passengers in Plattsburgh — which may not be surprising, given that it takes 75 minutes to drive to PBG from Burlington via the Grand Isle ferry, which costs \$18 round-trip.

New Yorkers seem to make up most of the passengers on the US Airways Express 24-seat turboprop bound for Boston. Many of them, however, are actually heading to more distant destinations. And all five of those interviewed say they would last week for a PBG-Boston flight and that they would probably have flown from BTV to LaGuardia, Newark, JFK or another hub had Plattsburgh not been in operation.

"We've been away from Burlington and always had a good experience," said Drew Reinher of Millbrook, NY, who sometimes flies in from PBG to Myrtle Beach, SC, in March. "It's just more convenient to come here," he explained. "There's also the whole thing about keeping money in your local community."

Winston Thomas, a Pittsburgh physician, and his wife PBG is a gateway to his native Dominica in the Caribbean, as well as to destinations around the United States. "I wasn't too happy with my last time flying from Burlington," Thomas said. "It was crowded and the flight was delayed. Here, things are much easier."

Airport officials on both sides of the lake insist there's no rivalry between them. Gulyan in the "long, long term" would PBG pose a significant threat to BTV, pretends Gusk Richards, a member of the Burlington airport commission. "We don't have the same products. We serve different clientele," he says.

Plattsburgh, Richards adds, is "more destination driven, while we're 'hub driven.' " PBG mostly flies to resorts. BTV takes passengers to larger airports where they can connect to anywhere, he observes.

Tom Long at PBG agrees there's no poaching taking place. But he makes that point just minutes before landing to visit to U-Hertz Aviation headquarters in BTV, with Plattsburgh development officials in tow. Heritage provides maintenance, repairs, charter flights and other aviation services. Long says the Plattsburgh team was going solely to look at Heritage's

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Amy McDowell
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Amie Revere-Hunter LICSW
BURLINGTON

ADJECTIVALLY CHALLENGED

When I read Corin Hinchliffe's "Side Dishes" column, "More Than Back" [January 26], I was baffled by Corin referring—not a once but twice—to Bistro Bistro restaurant as "deflactic" before the recent change in ownership. I was also left wondering if Corin had just moved to the area a weekago or was perhaps just having a drug attack.

As stakeholders, my wife and I had been regular patrons of Bistro Bistro since they opened, and big fans of the food and previous ownership. Food's what we eat; Bistro Bistro was at full stride when it sold last fall. Judging from the quantity and loyalty of its customers, Sticks seemed to be doing as well as any other restaurant in the area. Either way, it's an egregious lapsing in journalistic accuracy to refer to Bistro Bistro as deflactic at the time. My wife and I are still mourning the loss of one of our favorite haunts and have yet to try Bistro Bistro. I can only hope the food is better than the name.

Seann Foley
SHILLINGTON

Editor's note: True, Sticks was operational—or opposed to "deflactic," as we described it—when Bistro Bistro owners Jack and Carolyn Roma and Jennifer Sinsker purchased it last fall. But Sticks is now deflactic, meaning "no longer in use." The word was not meant to convey any judgment of the place; we knew it, too.

HOOKED ON FOOD?

Thank you, Alice Levitt and *Seven Days*, for focusing on the complexities of weight and food, which have and will trouble so many [“Love Free or Die,” January 29]. Two corrections: One, the corporate food industry engineers food to be so stimulating to the brain's reward centers and such an explosive party in the mouth, that these signals overwhelm the whims. I'll repeat that I don't know if the pleasure is in adding as much as, I do know that工程师ing is aimed at getting us to consume more, and I myself have been really hooked. And as a counselor, I see

so many people who blame and shame themselves for their inability to stop when they're scared with a certain food. Two, while it's true that many third parties resist offering adequate treatment for eating disorders, it's not because such issues are straightforward. It's because eating disorders are complex, biopsychosocial issues, and adequate, successful treatment is expensive and often long term. The National Eating Disorders Association website—nationaleatingdisorders.org—has more on this.

SOFA SOURCE

When I was a young man and needed to approach my father for some money, it was always prepended for the question I knew he would ask: “What did you do with the money I gave you last time?” Taxpayers would be wise to ask this same question before agreeing to the sofa tax being proposed by Attorney General William Sorrell. In his recent *Seven Days* letter to the editor, [“Feedback,” January 26], in response to a thoughtful piece by Judith Levine [“Pork Pie,” November 21], he accuses Levine of focusing on the fat and “grossing over the underlying problem of obesity.” To her credit, Levine is simply asking the question my father always asked, by pointing out that taxpayers are already funding the cause subsidies for agribusiness to produce corn syrup—an arrangement they are profiting handsomely from.

In an article titled “Soda on Sugar” on Vermont Ticker on December 9, 2010, I pointed out that the research of John Beck at Harvard Medical School suggests that raising the price of soda does have an effect on consumers, but removing the farm subsidies, which Senate suggests, accomplishes that goal without further taxing the public. While the programs Sorrell outlines to fight the obesity problem are noble and worthwhile, taxpayers would do well to have the tax dollars they are already forking over for farm subsidies redirected for these purposes.

So the problem is acknowledged, and we do need to step up and address it “aggressively.” But by my count, 39 states already have some form of tax on soft drinks. Mr. Sorrell fails to point to any of these states and demonstrate that the tax is working or curbing the problem of obesity. It seems that if he could be so bold, and since he does not, he fails to prove his case for a soda tax in the court of public opinion.

Theodore A. Hopper
MONTPELIER

LOCALmatters

Airport Envy

award-winning green-design building at BTV, which, he suggests, could serve as a model for a similar facility at PBI.

CANADIANS MAKE UP 40 PERCENT OF BTV'S DEPARTING PASSENGERS; PBI IS BILLING ITSELF AS "MONTREAL'S U.S. AIRPORT."

VEIC Goes South... End, to Bigger Digs

BY ANDY BROMAGE

Vermont Energy Institute's new 50,000-square-foot office on Burlington's South Champlain Street. That spring, VEIC is moving into a larger space in the former General Dynamics Building on Lefkowitz Avenue — now dubbed the Innovation Center at Vermont.

VEIC executive director Scott Johnson cautions that a lease was signed in December, and that the energy nonprofit's 300 employees will relocate sometime between April and June. The move is a major score for Peterlessi Real Estate and the Michigan-based owners of the South End building, which lost its tenants earlier last year when the defense contractor moved to the IBM campus in Billingsgate. The departing left 160,000 square feet empty in the four-story brick building.

VEIC operates Efficiency Vermont, the nation's first statewide energy-efficiency utility. Its headquarters are in Vermont, but VEIC has offices in Ohio, Boston and Washington, D.C., where it consults with and advocates on energy-saving strategies. The nonprofit also has local work offices.

Johnson says the move will allow VEIC to consolidate operations under one roof — the company has a smaller office at the Carpenter Building at Main and Battery streets — and minimize administrative costs. In its current office, the company has four different leases, each with a different rate, as a result of incremental expansions, according to Bradford Jason Adams of Adams Real Properties.

The new offices will occupy 50,000

square feet on the third and fourth floors of the Innovation Center.

Since moving into its South Champlain quarters 12 years ago, VEIC has grown exponentially. In the three years Johnson has been at the helm, he added 35 employees. Johnson says the end-of-year numbers "about 300." Publicly available tax records from 2008 show the company reported about \$3.8 million in total revenue, which come from a variety of fee-for-service energy programs.

Thanks to geothermal cooling and state-of-the-art energy systems, the US Environmental Protection Agency considers the Innovation Center to be one of the most energy-efficient structures in the country. That doesn't mean VEIC won't try to baton up the place even more. "We're working with an architect to see what else we can do before we move in there," Johnson says. "We expect that space will be highly energy efficient, hopefully surpassing where we are now."

VEIC is the largest tenant by far in the independent block, says Adams. He tried to accommodate the company — and environmental offices at the north end of the property — but determined it would take too long to meet the company's needs. Numerous smaller offices share the building, including Seven Days, WTEB-FM/The Root, Quantitative and Vermont Wine Merchants.

"It's gonna hurt 'em," Adams says of the moving warning. "But with the kind of building it is and the location, I think we'll have a good opportunity to get a bunch of smaller companies." 

REAL ESTATE

Indeed, Laurentian Aerospace has measured plans to build a \$175 million, 273,000-square-foot maintenance and repair facility at BTV that will be able to accommodate 740. The project is expected to provide 200 jobs by 2013 and ultimately as many as 900.

BTV doesn't have anything that big on its agenda, but Richards, McLaughlin and Seales are of bullish about its prospects. They attribute the recent decline in passenger numbers to runway work that limited the number of landings last year, as well as to the recession, which forced airlines to reduce flight frequencies.

Richards adds that BTV is "100 percent confident" that its favorable credit rating will be restored. "We're working on each of the issues raised by Moody's on a daily basis," he says. "We're not resting until we make it right." 

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John the Dispatcher

I might be just what you're looking for, brother — a dispatcher, sure, and it does have AC."

On a sunny afternoon, it was driving my dad through the Old North Road while speaking on my cellphone. My lad brother — an appliance salesman, and he was in the market for a new business vehicle. Rather than drag on a used car lot on Evans Road, I had checked out a car that might work for him.

"What the hell? Are you crazy? You almost don't know my old truck's whooper."

Hitting the brakes, I forced my head to see a man screaming at me from the curb. It was the corner of Interstate and Ashfield, and, apparently, I had passed through the stop sign before his family fully made it across the street. As I had been engrossed in the conversation with my brother, he might have had a point.

I lowered the passenger window as he approached my car to berate me further. I prepended him.

"Hey, Tom, sorry man."

He appeared taken aback, but was having none of my apology. In fact, it seemed like the road cops had thrown gas on his fire.

"How can you even be driving a cab?" he had retorted, one eye to eye. "You shouldn't have a license, you jerk."

"Look, I'm sorry," I repeated myself. "I really am."

"What's your cab company?" he demanded, glancing down at the slush-obscured logo on the sun visor. "In fact, guess a business card?"

"Oh, yes, I thought. Duh! Just hand me a copy, why not?"

"You're not going to call my boss, are you?" I asked plaintively.

"That's exactly what I'm going to do. Now give me your card."

Surmounting my best掩饰ed acting, I pressed him one of my cards through the window, a study in grievous despair.

"And what's the number of this cab?" he asked, nose firmly in control and pushing the interrogation.

"It's cab number K-1," I whispered. I might have been close to actual tears. De Novo has nothing on me, baby.

My passenger stared at me through slit eyes, nodding resolutely. He wouldn't be had on by the hills, and was leaving every sentence off.

I left the scene of the crime and continued one block along Ashfield Street until I reached the traffic light at the North Winooski intersection. The call came in on schedule.

"Tom, sir," I answered my cellphone. "How can I help you?"

I worked about my choices of social styling. I worked for two flat儿s (check on the day, and the distinct number of the dispatchers I'd forever load in my memory: a grossly conundrum of instances of Marbilous and don't-even-think-about-fucking-with-me attitude. That bell-shaped status never wavered, whether they were dealing with the customers or the drivers. Taxi dispatchers are notoriously untroubled and overaveraged, their sole job perk is the total freedom to be the tiniest jerk.

"What's this?" the older asked. Yip, it was the finale.

"This is John the dispatcher," I croaked. (Why *John*? You may ask. Perhaps I was thinking of John the Baptist.) "What can I do?"

"Well, one of your drivers nearly wiped out my entire family. He was changing through a stop sign."

I hit out a disgusted groan (merely for

the atmosphere) and asked, "Where exactly did this happen?"

"It was on the corner of Interstate and Ashfield. He said he was in cab number K-1."

"Cab number K-1 — is that right? That was the first problem we've had with that fading character. Per Seing has eight now." "Eight-ally?" he asked. "You're going to live, for here?"

He actually sounded a bit going, which I didn't find dubious. John the dispatcher's immediate and obvious response to his complaint was perhaps more than he imagined for. The man had underestimated just how seriously we take customer service in this company.

a taxi call "Taxi service?" I said. "This is John."

"Okay, I was calling in as if you were home" said the caller.

"Holy shit, I thought, recognizing the voice. It's the guy! I'd must have suspected something was fishy."

"We, no," I said, suppressing my panic as I mouthed words. "This is John the dispatcher."

"It's not," the man said. "I thought you said it was John."

"We," I replied. "It's John the dispatcher. We're not home. We did tell him a guy tasting though." Now I was up dancing and not even making a whale lot at home. If we had just let somebody go, wouldn't that create a job opening?

"Oh, you find somebody today? What was he fired for?"

"Well, that's not important." Like a lounge singer implying his song in the middle of a set. I was losing track of John the dispatcher and had begun to channel some seriously and entirely unconvincing spawn of John-plus-Scrappy. "The thing is — we're not having K-1."

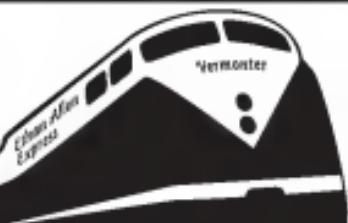
"Sorry, K-1," he replied, and we hung up. Had he realized my snarl? Or was he really looking for a job? I was so frazzled out I couldn't think straight.

Now, 18 hours later, I'm still jumping every time the phone rings, an hyper-skeptical for the next shot to drop. If he does call again, I don't know whether to triple-down at John the dispatcher or to simply come clean to Jerimiah the enforcer.

"What a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive." That is. ☺

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Independently Published in the 802: Fiction

BY MARGOT HARRISON

In December, we promised a roundup of independently published fiction and poetry by Vermonters that had found its way to the *Seven Days* office in 2010. In the month since, yet more independently or self-published titles have arrived.

So, for this edition, we're sticking with just fiction. The usual disclaimers apply: These aren't convenient "resources," because the books haven't been read cover to cover. Given the volume we receive, some may have been lost in the shuffle.

BOOKS

Still, our hunting yielded some pleasant surprises, from an Alaskan wilderness adventure to the story of a became head forged in Hitler's Germany. We want to share them with readers while it's still turning-pages-by-the-broadside weather.

Most of these books can be ordered online or through your local bookseller.

Some readers will be put off by the Swastika and gothic font on the cover of *Siegfried Follies* by **ROBERT ACTON** (Doggett Press, 306 pages, \$18). Coupled with the title, they suggest a broad, gaudy-sapping parody along the lines of *Springtime for Hitler*

Nothing could be further from the truth. Open the novel, and the author — a partition — sweeps you into a Leavenworth hospital in Munich during the last months of the Reich. Nurses are extorting sick and deformed children, the overworked caregivers are full of



death. Amid the chaos, no one notices when a sturdy 8-year-old orphan Franz rescues a child who was tossed from a death-camp bound train in a suitcase. The two boys — one a model Aryan, the other pretentiously Jewish — become an unlikely family unit. Their bond survives postwar poverty, migration and even the 1960s

After spent 25 years researching and writing the book, and it shows in his thoughtful development of complex and sometimes — make or break elements for a historical novel. The character disease Big Tommies, but they aren't spew ones. Whether the two protagonists' relationship may soon (or not) about the relationship between Christians and Jews, it feels surprisingly genuine.

Part of what's remarkable about *Siegfried Follies* is the author's ability to have his characters to reveal and root against cycles of persecution — if only briefly and emblematically in fiction. That courage to normalize cultural homophobia is something we see again in *The Mosley Bible: A Modern Allegory* by **ROBERT LEEVER** of Johnson (Outer Rim Press) [dramatized by Charles Green Publishing], 464 pages, \$25.

Leever, the founder of a conservation fund called Chimp-n-Sus, clearly cares a lot about our primate relatives. He's crafted a novel of ideas in which the central focus is between religion and science, play-activism — and sometimes humorously or ironically. A young Christian, shocked by the discovery that he may possess African DNA, meets up with a bold, wry evolutionist who doesn't think science excludes spirituality. Lots of conversation results — and music, featured on the accompanying CD by Eric Maring.

Yet another novel of ideas is *Parallel Play* (Crosswicks, 306 pages, \$16) by **ROBERT BROWDER**, a retired clinical psychologist who lives in Plainfield. A seemingly normal husband and father decides one Sunday to attend church naked. His pastor isn't too bothered by his赤裸 from routine, but his wife sends him to see a shrink. So begins a comic novel of psychotherapy whose characters range from a randy police officer to a supergod who's descended from Freud's famous patient Dora.

Considered the the Tri-state Megabucks lottery program the year? See Darren Hunter, the baron of *Streetwise Tales* by Stephen Morris (Crosswicks, 256 pages, \$14.95). So Hunter — who was appointed "Megabucks cat" after his unsuccessful run for state senate — invents "Megabucks" to seek Vermont's newest residents. Thus Morris deploys the sorts of Green Mountain satire he helped to pen in *Beyond Yester* and *The King of Vermont* (originally published by William Morrow). Expect to recognize some of your friends and neighbors.

Solving spiritual enlightenment, a man leaves his home and heads into the Alaskan bush with a backpack. We're all heard stories like this, and they don't always end well (think Christopher McCandless or Timothy Treadwell). **MATT HELLMUTH** of St. Albans did return

PICTURING 'DAVE'

VERMONT AUTHOR LAUREN CHAMBERS HILL'S latest book for children, *Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave*, is garnering some serious national attention. After a warm review appeared in the *New York Times*, Hill's lyrical poem about an actual slave born 200 years ago spent a week on the top 10 best-seller list of children's picture books. It has since become a 2011 Caldecott Honor book, and New York-based artist Bryan Collier's colorful collage pictures won the 2011 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award. An interview with Hill in the *School Library Journal* generated further interest in the book. Hill says he wrote about Dave, who inscribed a handful of the 40,000 odd clay pots he made with two-line poems because he is more interested in "how African Americans define the larger American culture" than in how they've been victimized. So Dave simply makes a pot — a "poetic" approach targeted to 4-to 8-year-olds.



DAVE THE POTTER: ARTIST, POET, SLAVE

By Lauren Chambers Hill. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers. 40 pages. \$16.99.



A lyrical, speculative novel with a beat beat. The paper 4 Nothing by **GEORGINA HARRIS** (Harcourt Books, 215 pages, price \$14.95) takes place in a U.S. where state boundaries are strictly guarded and citizens must choose occupations by age 20. The narrative, a sometimes touchingly, doesn't approach life that way. "The Harpies have been made during times of duress," he writes, " — that brief period of falling into the unknown with only hope that the next rise is arriving your way."

OPEN THE NOVEL,
AND THE AUTHOR
SWEEPS
YOU INTO
A LEBENSBORN
HOSPITAL IN MUNICH
DURING THE LAST
MONTHS OF THE REICH

to write *Arguing With the Woods: A Journey into the Adirondack Wilderness* (Wood Thrush Books, \$19.95). After one too many arguments with literary agents who wanted it to be less about philosophy and more about bears, he published the book under his own name. Good thing he did, because McLaughlin can write. His descriptions bring wood life to the dense, chaotic woods of the Adirondack Wilderness — and to his own ambivalence about what he was doing there.

You may feel a twinge for the Highlands after perusing *A Scottish Ferry Tale* by novice writer of *Fairfax* (Constable, 284 pages, \$7.99). After a confusing first few chapters, it evolves into a charming novel with a funny voice and a genuinely attractive hero — a Glaswegian actor who charms the way American heroes.



Just May mark the 40th anniversary of the shootings at Kent State. **Robert Siers** of East Middlebury explores their resonance — then and now — in his novel *Still River* (Amherst Publishing, 163 pages, \$12).

LORRAE BYRANT's stories have appeared in *Horrorist* Life and *Hunger Mountain*. They're collected in *Fall Moon Stories* (Brown Bear Books, 162 pages, price \$14.95, available at brownbearbooks.com).

Two insiders of therapists in a small Vermont town lead to the revelation of a world of dangerous New Age cults in *South Work*, a thriller by *LAURENCE* of South Burlington (iUniverse, \$12, paper, \$27.95) (2).



Dear Cecil:

Over many years of buying pet food for a variety of domestic co-inhabitants, I have noticed the "wet" varieties purport to be made from any number of meat-and-fish fillers I can immediately recall cat and dog food made of beef, lamb, liver, tuna, salmon, chicken, turkey... the list seems almost endless. Last I never, and I mean NEVER, includes pork. I suspect it's present on the list because cats and dogs might keep kosher, or follow Islamic food principles. Surely you can shed some light.

Mike Lucy

When I go shopping for cat food, how come I never see any with pork on it?

Mandy Saint-Paul

I go to the cat food section in the store, and there are all kinds of tasty-sounding flavors: chicken, seafood, lamb and rice. So why do I never see pork on the shelf? No cats consider the pig an unclean animal because it doesn't have to look back? I asked you this a long time ago, but I guess you've forgotten.

Sharon, Feeder of cats

The first time I got this question I ignored it, reasoning as follows: Who cares? The second time I thought: These frickin' people might try to form a support group and leave the rest of us alone. The third time was from



Sharon, who not only continued to harp on the issue but restrained my ongoing failure to grapple with it to the point that I couldn't.

I confess this wounded my vanity. I called my assistants Uusi and Paavo, who after the exhausting labors of recent weeks were looking forward to spending the rest of the winter whistling around the stove. Ladies, I said, I must send you over once into the breach, just to shut these nutcases up.

They shuffled grantly out the door. We had a bit of discussion in the ensuing days re-

advertising. "IT'S HALAL," I told them, "NOT HELLAH. PLEASE KEEP THESE DETAILS STRAIGHT" but at last we got the bottom of the mister, or close enough.

I to the execs pet lover, never, and I mean NEVER" apparently means "not very often." We went to the supermarket and found some pork-containing pet food in about five minutes. I stated this wasn't much but when we surveyed the major pet food companies, four of eight respondents said they used pork in their products and they used pork in their products on occasion and fear and they didn't do it to prevent a prohibition against

pork in pet food is some immutable fact of life.

2 Of the four surviving pet food makers, Royal Canin, Spikes, or Jack, glancing across the front of the pig most prominently, I can just say that it seemed to me the real question ought to be why oil manufacturers didn't use this food of the gods.

"Pork is very digestible for dogs and cats," the company told us, "and in some cases its digestibility exceeds that of chicken or fish."

3 I have stated pork fat was used only in certain products in my Veterinary Formula line, remarking that a dog was less likely to have an allergic reaction to it since the fat had gone through a special refining process to remove the more allergenic protein. We found this cryptic. Are dogs likely to have allergic reactions to unrefined pork fat? On the other side of the fence, Crown Pet Foods said it excludes pork to help prevent certain products that might cause food intolerance issues, but (oh pork isn't specifically problematical!)

4 Nestle said it had no specific reason for excluding pork

other than uncertainty about whether it could get a consistent, high-quality supply. This was an answer. The supply/demand model might be cryptic, but pork? The vagueness of all these responses suggested. We've always done it this way and don't really know why, so we're going to do something up.

5 Hills said it uses pork lungs, spleen and liver in its products. That may be all the explanation we need for pork's hoary visibility. Try and imagine a TV ad ending with the tagline "Because your cat deserves lungs and spleen."

6 Royal Pet Foods said it didn't use pork due to increasing sales in Europe and Israel—the implication being that doing so would run afoul of religious dietary laws. The religion in question is Islam, not Judaism. Although Leviticus and Deuteronomy both prohibit eating their carcasses, ribbed interpretation holds that this doesn't apply to everyday handling of pork, and Randa explicitly says the thing to do with porkier meat is feed it to dogs. The Quran, on the other hand, has been interpreted to mean any contact with pork is haram, or forbidden (haram things are haram). In 1997 Muslims living near Rugby, UK, objected to plans for a new pet food factory out of fear it would contaminate the air with pork odors.

So here's my answer, Sharon et al: To the extent pet food makers exclude or at least disrepect pork, they do so as a sort of moral choice like the muslims if they don't

do something, your animals get strength? Cecil Adams can answer the above pet questions any time. Write Cecil Adams at The Straight Dope, P.O. Box 608, Chicago, IL 60654, or visit www.straightdope.com.



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The December 26, 2010, press release from the mayor's office heralded in Burlington's progressive camp with the concave force of a cluster bomb. Its title "Burlington and Lockheed Martin Sign 'Letter of Cooperation' on Green Energy Initiatives."

To many in the local peace movement, the deal, inked by Mayor Bob Kiss and Lockheed Martin senior vice president Ray Johnson, sounded surreal, like a Hollywood pitch for the world's most Machiavellian baddies movie ever.

One *ultrafeminist* War resister and community organizer who never dives in his space-time and now presides over the nation's greatest and most livable city, The Other, is the closest technology offer for the world's largest manufacturer of fighter jets, bombsights and nuclear missiles. Together, The unlikely duo toils on the greatest threat yet to humanity's future: global warming!

If the storyline sounds like a satirical comedy, comedy is laughing — certainly not the protestant who came out in force to Monday night's city council meeting. Nearly all were there to voice their anger, shock and dismay that the Queen City would partner with a corporation that only a week earlier was singled out by U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders — a former Burlington mayor — as one of the worst perpetrators of criminal fraud against

U.S. taxpayers ever. None spoke in favor of the deal.

Many in Monday night's crowd of about 100 echoed the sentiments put far word in a resolution, sponsored by Ward 3 City Councilor Emma Mulvey-Strick, which calls on the city to end all standards for companies that want to partner with Burlington. As Mulvey-Strick put it, "We need to have a common understanding of what our community values are, so it's not just anybody we're going into an agreement with."

But setting these standards is easier said than done. Burlington has a rich history of anterior stances, and a long and often conflicted relationship with America's military-industrial complex — think General Dynamics, which until last fall had called Burlington home for decades.

To many who oppose the lockstep-Lockheed deal, this controversy is directly related to the July 2010 announcement by the U.S. Air Force that Burlington had been chosen as one of two "preferred locations" for the new

F-35 joint strike fighters, which are designed and built by Lockheed Martin.

Though the jets won't arrive in Burlington for at least seven years, they've already sparked significant community opposition, especially among residents of Winooski. Burlington and South Burlington would be most affected by the increased noise and air pollution. To many observers, Lockheed's aversion to Burlington is seen as a way of clearing the runway for the F-35s' arrival.

Sanders and Rep. Peter Welch all characterized the selection of Burlington for the F-35s as a feather in Vermont's cap.

As Sanders put it, if the F-35s are going to be built and deployed, he'd prefer to see that work done by Vermonters.

For their part, Kiss and other city officials who brokered the "letter of cooperation" with Lockheed say that any perceived connection between the F-35s and Burlington's participation in this so-called "Carbon War Room" project

UP IN ARMS

Corporate greenwashing
or "swords into ploughshares"?
Burlington debates the Lockheed deal.

BY KEN PICARD

The F-35s also have their share of local advocates. Their "homing" in South Burlington would ensure the Air National Guard's return at Burlington International Airport for decades to come, along with all the associated economic perks. These benefits include the possibility that some of the F-35 engines could be built at the General Electric plant in Rutland. The cog facility, which employs 970 workers, is part of Vermont's \$1 billion aerospace industry, whose economic impact on Vermont, according to former Lt. Gov. Jim Douglas, is roughly equivalent to that of the state's dairy industry.

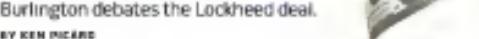
Despite Sanders' recent reservations about the defense industry in general and Lockheed in particular, Vermont's congressional delegation welcomed last summer's \$8.5 billion announcement with great enthusiasm. In a joint press release, Sen. Patrick Leahy;

purely coincidental. Though Lockheed is its biggest benefactor, they argue, other companies are involved, too.

They characterize the Carbon War Room as an unprecedented opportunity for the Queen City to join a powerful coalition of visionary and philanthropic companies that are committed to fight global warming. It would provide Burlington with not just the technical know-how to significantly reduce its carbon footprint, but also the financial means to do so.

Ultimately, this debate touches on a bigger issue about Burlington's identity and the corporations with which it chooses to associate. Given the dire predictions about imminent and catastrophic climate change, should the city accept Lockheed Martin's technical help, and ample dollars, in the interest of achieving the greater good?

Or, should Burlington refuse to lend its name and reputation to help bluish the image of the world's largest maker of weapons of mass destruction? In short,





bombing a nonprofit called the Carbon War Room.

Erasson's goal is to bring together entities that have common values for reducing their carbon footprint with major firms who want to make some money while also doing good.

"These businesses realize that there's up to a 30 percent return on investment in a renewable energy," Erasson explains. "But they know that if they're going to make that money, it's not going to be on solar projects, like replacing flood-prevent light bulbs."

in Lockheed Martin "beating swords into ploughshares," as Major Kiss has characterized it, or engaging in corporate greenwashing at Burlington's expense?

It helps to understand what the Carbon War Room is all about. The spiky-haired Jennifer Green, who heads the major's sustainability section now, was instrumental in bringing it to the city's attention and brokering the Lockheed deal. Though Green says she "completely gets" why some people have had a strong negative reaction to Lockheed, she was stunned to hear people calling on the city to "just say no" to Carbon War Room.

Green is an environmental specialist with more than 20 years of experience in community development and environmental management with such organizations as the Peace Corps, CARE International, World Resources Institute and World Bank. She says that, despite its billion-dollar standing name, the Carbon War Room actually involves many peace-loving and eco-friendly partners.

In January 2009, Green was one of 20 sustainability coordinators working at major cities across North America who received an email from Stu Johnson, deputy city manager for the city of Vancouver, BC. In it, Johnson explained that Sir Michael Boastman, founder of the UK's Virgin Group, was

REMEMBER THE REAGAN-ERA NEWS STORIES ABOUT THE PENTAGON BUYING \$600 TOILET SEATS AND \$7000 COFFEE MAKERS? THAT WAS LOCKHEED MARTIN.

The outcome of those conversations was the "Green Capital Global Challenge" competition, held in Vancouver last February, which both Kiss and Green attended. The "billionaires" were chosen and, Green admits, was chosen by Johnson as a tribute to Britain's experience fighting the Nazis in World War II. Winston Churchill advised the war-time damage during the bombing of London. The many Britons, he said, served as an enduring reminder of British resilience in the face of adversity.

"Sir Richard [Boastman] is telling the theme and applying it to what he sees as the biggest challenge for the 21st century and beyond: global warming," Green adds. "Lockheed's getting all the press, but this is a much more partnerships kinda

to "test drive" some of the company's green energy technologies, which might eventually be deployed in bigger cities."

Later, when Burlington was chosen as one of the "first-movers" cities to participate in the Carbon War Room, Lockheed representatives made three separate visits to the Queen City, culminating in the December 20 letter of cooperation. That agreement sketches out, in vague terms, potential areas of cooperation, including "sustainable business models and funding concepts," "sustainability analysis" and "energy and transportation technologies."

What are Burlington's specific priorities in working with Lockheed, and how much money will the city reap from that relationship? Kiss says it's premature to

launch of different players."

"These players

include Agua Alta, founder of SunEdison, a solar-energy firm; Tom Rinaldi, founder of Resonance Institute, a public-policy group dedicated to increasing civic engagement by young people through technological innovation; and Jose Maria Figueroa, former president of Costa Rica. Kiss points out that Figueroa Figueroa was a graduate of the US Military Academy at West Point who later went on to found Costa Rica's military.

It was in Vancouver that the Burlington team first approached representatives from Lockheed's energy division and offered Burlington as a place

put a dollar figure on it, as no projects have been formalized yet. Nevertheless, the major remains working with Lockheed on a variety of issues related to energy efficiency, such as increasing the fuel efficiency of its own vehicles and vehicles and reducing steam from the McNeil Generating Station.

Perhaps such goals could be accomplished using less customization. Vermont-based talent, such as the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation and the Grand Inquisitor Kiss argues that the Lockheed deal doesn't preclude forging those other relationships.

"There's enough opportunity to this issue of climate change that we need to look for all the partnerships out there," he says. "From my perspective, we're doing this with our eyes wide open, and critical assessment [of Lockheed] that will not be withheld."

Kiss says he's "reserving judgment" on the P-35 issue — until he's seen the results of an environmental impact study — but he is dismissive of the widely held perception that Lockheed is simply trying to green up its image in order to head off community opposition to the military planes. He calls that theory specious and "too fantastic" to be credible. And, he notes, he's never once discussed the P-35 with anyone at Lockheed Martin.

"The US government is going to display that defense system, not Lockheed, and they're going to display it whether it's here or elsewhere," Kiss says. "You can look at this critically or you can look at this positively. If there's influence, it goes both ways. We're looking for Lockheed to be a good corporate citizen in terms of energy conservation."

Few in Vermont's peace-and-justice community find Kiss' argument convincing. If anything, opponents of the deal, such as activist Jonathan Lavin of Burlington, note the sheer hypocrisy of it. Lockheed, as the US military's largest supplier, is itself one of the world's largest consumers of fossil fuels. Worse, he points to the company's decades-long record of waste, fraud, corruption and

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Up in Arms

infrastructure, peddling as evidence that Lockheed is anything but a "good corporate citizen."

Sen. Sanders' February 2 press release on the defense industry's "well-documented history of fraud" references a Pentagon report that singled out Lockheed for 12 violations since 1995 of government contract fraud, for which it paid fines and settlements in excess of \$60 million.

The Project on Government Oversight, an independent, nonprofit watchdog group, maintains a database of federal contractor misconduct. Lockheed, which gets 84 percent of its revenue from the U.S. government, ranks number one on POGO's list of corporate offenders. In all, it racked up 54 instances of fraud as well as environmental, ethics and labor violations valued at more than \$377 million.

Equally troubling is the company's human rights record, which includes the largest ever federal settlement in a race-

In it, Harming lays out his case for why Lockheed Martin isn't just the world's largest war profiteer but also the most corrupt. Remember the Pentagon's multi-story offices at the Pentagon buying \$600 dollar seats and \$7000 coffee makers? That was Lockheed Martin.

According to Harming, Lockheed Martin is highly influential in setting U.S. foreign policy and lobbied heavily for the war in Iraq, from which it profited greatly, and now its stock price soars. The company also makes about \$12 million in campaign contributions per election cycle and is currently the single biggest donor to Rep. Howard "Back" McKellar (D-Tenn.), who now chairs the House Armed Services Committee.

More relevant to Vermonters may be Lockheed's troubled record on the F-35s. The \$362 billion program, now the largest project in military aviation history, is already four years behind schedule and has been plagued by technical problems and

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IN TERMS OF ENERGY CONSERVATION.



MAYOR BOB KISS

discrimination case. In 2008, Lockheed paid \$2.5 million in damages to an African American electrician who was subjected to a racially hostile work environment, including frequent use of the N-word and repeated threats of firing.

"The corporate greenwashing angle makes Burlington very attractive to Lockheed," says Lammert, who recently helped organize a local petition drive and leafleting campaign that resulted in hundreds of dozen in the Burlington area. "When you have age and racial discrimination lawsuits that set the bar for the size of the settlement, then why not come home to Burlington and enjoy all its farmers markets and bike lanes?"

Lockheed's record of abuses could fill a book — and, in fact, it has. Last month, William Harming, director of the Arms and Security Initiatives at the New America Foundation, released *Profiteers of War: Lockheed Martin and the Making of the Military Industrial Complex*.

massive cost overruns. Just last month, U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates announced that he is putting the Marine Corps F-35s on a two-year "probation" in order to give Lockheed more time to work out the technical bugs and prove the fighter's reliability.

South Burlington attorney and anti-war activist James Marc Liss says he wasn't surprised to learn that Lockheed was a major contributor to the Carbon War Room. Liss says he's seen this kind of greenwashing before — by IBM, in the 1990s, when the company was doing business with apartheid South Africa.

Liss, who worked at IBM at the time, recalls how the company launched a charitable project to donate up to \$5 million a year in computer equipment — or about 1 percent of IBM's annual sales in South Africa — to poor black communities in the United States. Liss claims IBM did so in an effort to deflect criticism from its unpopular dealings

with a more robust. He wrote an op-ed about that for the Los Angeles Times.

"We're familiar with the level of approach," Lutz says. "It's blunt green-washing, and now it's happening to us."

Lockheed has been "diversifying" for some time. In addition to producing planes, satellites and weapon systems, it has also supplied interrogators to the government at Quantico Air Force base, police in Hartford, and the Georgia postal service and helped write the Afghan constitution. With 184,000 employees worldwide, the company has a business presence in 46 U.S. states.

In recent years, Lockheed has also landed contracts to develop business-class devices for the FBI, process the documents for the NSA, run the mail for the U.S. Postal Service, and process census forms for the Census Bureau. And, it's broadened its definition of "homeland security" to include the domestic infrastructure, including protection of the nation's power grid. Through its work in that sector,

Lockheed Martin has already made inroads into Vermont.

Applied Research Initiatives has been working with Sandia researchers on optical engineering and visual-simulation devices, such as advanced night-vision goggles, for the U.S. military. However, that relationship is a small, "boutique" operation that is worth less than \$100,000 per year.

By comparison, this recent deal, imagined by Sanders in January 2000, is a \$900,000 arrangement with Sandia, UVM and Vermont's energy companies, including Green Mountain Power, to work together on cybersecurity and smart grid development. The deal is part of a larger, five-million-dollar matching grant that Vermont received to modernize and secure its energy infrastructure.

John Renn, senior advisor to UVM President Tom Magg, characterizes the Sandia partnership as "a great opportunity" for Vermont to forge a "long-term relationship" with renewable-energy lab Vermont; he adds, could be the first state in the nation with a truly smart energy grid. An exchange of students, faculty and staff

"Smart grid" is one of those things that Sanders has been trying to do more and more of in the last half-decade or so years," he adds. "So it doesn't surprise me that they're trying to do that in Vermont."

On the UVM campus, the Sandia deal has largely flown under the radar. Late last week, the Student Government Association held a lengthy debate on Burlington's agreement with Lockheed, calling for "full transparency." No memo was made of Sandia, though that project has been in the news for months.

SGA senator and UVM senior Will Stevenson notes that in April 2000, the UVM board of trustees adopted a recommendation from the university's socially responsible investing group to divest itself of any holdings in companies that are involved in the manufacture or distribution of cluster bombs or munitions that contain depleted uranium. Lockheed Martin doesn't.

Burlington, too, has tried to legislate

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Since 1995, Lockheed Martin has been the private contractor that operates Sandia National Laboratories, which is owned by the U.S. Department of Energy. An outgrowth of World War II's Manhattan Project, Sandia is one of three DOE labs that still work on nuclear weapons development. Its sprawling facility is located at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, N.M., and employs about 7500 people.

In November 2000, just one month after he lambasted Lockheed Martin on the floor of the U.S. Senate, Sen. Sanders hosted a delegation from Sandia to Vermont to discuss a partnership with the University of Vermont and local energy companies, with the possible goal of opening a Sandia satellite lab in New England.

That wasn't Sandia's — or Lockheed's — first visit to Vermont. For the past three years, Norwich University's

between UVM and Sandia is expected to occur as early as this summer.

"I don't think, in the long run, this effort is going to be limited to UVM. This is a statewide venture," adds Renn, who earlier this month spent two days meeting with Sandia executives in New Mexico. "To hear them talking about climate change and energy usage, they're really smart. If we can get them to help us in Vermont, we'll be very lucky."

Sanders declined an interview, requesting Roger Daga to talk about funds, the R&D at the Lockheed lab and Sandia with Burlington. However, he made it clear in the past that none of the work Sandia does in Vermont will involve weapons research or development.

Don Hancock works on nuclear-waste safety issues at the Southwest Research and Information Center, a nonprofit watchdog group based near Sandia in Albuquerque. As he explains, Sandia wants to bill itself as the leading national-security entity in the country, not the world, with "national security" broadly defined.

responsible corporate behavior. The city has ordinances that require ecologically-purchasing and reliable wages to be paid to its contractors. It also gives preferential status to minority- and women-owned businesses, and prohibits union-busting, discrimination and foreign outsourcing. But those conditions apply only to vendors and contractors doing business with the city, not to entities that partner with the city, sponsor events or donate money.

Over the years, Burlington has also adopted resolutions condemning nuclear proliferation, the practice of defense contractors in its public schools and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

If the city pursues an ongoing relationship with Lockheed Martin, will future proclamations of Burlington's values carry the same weight?

Before the end of Monday night's council meeting, Councilor Ed Addeo (D Ward 1) introduced an amendment to Mahoney-Staud's resolution that would have made the mayor's letter of cooperation with Lockheed Martin "null and void." The amendment failed on a 3-0 vote, though the resolution itself, which is nonbinding, was ultimately approved. □

Greg Guma contributed to this report.

The “Porch” Expands

Vermont's online community builder recruits new neighbors — and experiences growing pains

BY ANNY BRONKAGE

When Michael Wood-Lewis and his wife, Valerie, moved to the West Town neighborhood in Burlington, they wanted to meet the people who lived nearby. That's why, in the spring of 2006, they founded Front Porch Forum, a free email newsletter written by, and for, their neighbors. At first, it was a hit. Today, more than 99 percent of them still consistently subscribe to FPF. In 2008, they expanded the service to neighborhoods all over Chittenden County.

But when it came time to push FPF into rural Vermont, Wood-Lewis was less certain the format would work. He thought small towns might be too spread out and disconnected to make effective use of the forums. Since then, he's changed his mind.

Why? For an answer, Wood-Lewis points to the example of a neighborhood Zumba class in Huntington on a snowy night in March. With short notice, a local resident managed to pull together 67 participants at a school gymnasium for an impromptu workout. The next day, she gushed about the event on her neighborhood Front Porch Forum.

"You could never do that kind of organizing that quickly and that successfully without the kind of networking that's provided by FPF," wrote Brad Worcester.

In the coming year, Wood-Lewis, who owns and moderates FPF, is hoping to replicate the Huntington experience all across Vermont. Front Porch Forum is expanding in a big way, so small towns in every corner of the state. Thanks to \$10,000 from the e-Vermont Community Broadband Project, a federally funded program to help small towns better use the Internet, a dozen new communities joined FPF last year, among them Island Pond, Cambridge and Poultney. A second batch

of a Vermont towns was announced in December and includes Vergennes, Calais and Hardwick.

Today, FPF boasts 23,000 subscribers in 60 Vermont towns who get frequent e-mail newsletters full of postings from neighbors looking for lost cars, wanting to borrow a lawnmower, or organizing potluck suppers. A waiting list of 8000 people have expressed interest in their communities. Wood-Lewis says he's even gotten queries from as far away as Ohio and Australia asking how they can get a similar forum. He's not sure how the Aussies heard of him, but guesses it could be from his column on Huffington Post, or from the recent profile of FPF in US News & World Report.

"When people outside Vermont hear about what's happening with Front Porch Forum, they're just blown away," Wood-Lewis says during a recent interview at a Burlington cafe.

But as FPF expands, it's also attracting Vermont critics, who complain about its one-size-fits-all approach, and about Wood-Lewis' moderation practices. And whether Vermont's small towns will respond enthusiastically remains to be seen. To date, FPF has largely been confined to more densely populated Chittenden County, where a few tight-knit city blocks can be enough to constitute a forum. Some of the new host communities, such as Grafton and North on the Canadian border, are so unpopulated that it takes four or five towns to get enough people for one forum. Wood-Lewis admits the idea probably won't work "anywhere west," everywhere, but believes it can be "helpful" just about anywhere.

"In a community where no one is talking to each other, and Front Porch Forum comes in and gets 30 percent of people talking, that's progress," he says. "In a place where it's a very tight, cohesive community, Front Porch Forum

TECHNOLOGY



Michael Wood-Lewis

comes along and makes everything happen easier."

Usage rates for FPF remain low in some towns (10 percent in Milton, 36 percent in Colchester), while others have huge numbers of residents have signed up (76 percent in Winooski, 71 percent in Richmond), according to figures supplied by FPF.

Middlesex has been one of the successes. The town applied to be an e-government community in 2010 specifically because it wanted Free Patch Forum. Town moderator Jason Clark says that, as Middlesex has "suburban and" neighbors have lost touch with each other and talk most often at public meetings, usually about something divisive. She says FPF is a way to engage neighbors on an "everyday trust-build-ing level."

With more than half of its 700 households subscribed, Middlesex has become one of the better performing towns in participation since the forum launched. Neighbors e-chat about everything from the weather to why so many leggy tracks are driving down town roads, Clark says.

"I was worried it was just going to be yuppies who wanted to sell their kayaks," Clark says. "And it has been yuppies who wanted to sell their kayaks. But it's also been people whose chickens have been laying too many eggs and they wanted to see if anybody wanted eggs."

Gates in other towns have been less satisfied. George Gross of Winooski, a former school superintendent who posts frequently on his neighborhood forum, says he asked Wood-Lewis to unite the city on one forum — rather than the current four — so residents could more easily share citywide news. Unlike Colchester, South Burlington and Rouse, Winooski doesn't have its own newspaper, and Gross thinks FPF could fill the void. But Wood-Lewis refused, Gross says, because he felt a single forum would be too big.

"Michael's got one idea as to what he wants to do and that's his privilege. He's the guy who put it together," Gross says. "It's just, some of the rest of us have an idea that we could get more use out of it if it was set up a little differently for our situation."

Because Wood-Lewis and his staff of three employees screen every post for tone and content, running the site is an incredibly labor intensive. The operation runs on a shoestring, with half the revenue coming from sponsors who advertise on the e-newspapers, and half coming from municipalities that pay a fee — from 10 cents to 30 cents per capita — for the ability to post messages citywide across numerous forums.

The site is in profit, but it doesn't generate a lot of it. Wood-Lewis isn't comfortable discussing financials, but he reveals, "We're not losing money. We've basically just break even."

Since the forum's debut nearly 11 years ago, Michael and Valerie Wood-Lewis have funded the company out of their own pockets. The first outside capital came from a string of grants (\$30,000 from the Case Foundation, \$35,000 from the Rural Telecommunications Congress and \$30,000 from the Oregon Family Foundation).

Last fall, FPF scored its biggest and most prestigious award: a \$224,000 Knight News Challenge grant that will pay to build a new software platform for the site, set to launch this fall. Users won't notice much difference with the new platform, Wood-Lewis says, but the software will incorporate some features and will use staff heads of firms.

One concern of the non-interest Knight grant, which may be paid back in five years, is that the code must be open source, meaning others could copy and modify it. Unlike Patch Forum, Wood-Lewis says he'd like that the FPF team is more like a gospel choir: spread than a trade secret to be protected.

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The "Perch" Expands

Perhaps not surprisingly, as its audience has grown, Front Porch Forum has earned its share of detractors who complain of being "censored" for raising sensitive subjects. Some see inconsistent standards in the way the site's moderators police comments and apply its terms of use policy. Though FPF requires names and street addresses from participants, discussions can at rare occasions feel like a turnar around of the "no names and no surnames" section of Craigslist.

Last fall, FPF was dragged into an ugly political fight when Wood-Lewis told a potential candidate that something she wrote violated the terms-of-use policy

right have handled the situation better, but questions how much impact the pro-Lesoon posts actually had.

"I highly doubt, in this one little neighborhood, people read this little posting on the way to the polls and that made a significant difference in the election," Wood-Lewis says.

Electoral turnout has grown increasingly tricky for FPF, he notes, as candidates and their supporters try to "talk the system for a little more spotlight." Commenting that "we're learning as we go," Wood-Lewis says that incident and others like it are prompting FPF to revisit its policies in clearehs.

He doesn't apologize, though, for cracking down on contentious issues. Dissenters are welcome on almost any topic, he says, as long as writers keep

IN A COMMUNITY WHERE NO ONE IS TALKING TO EACH OTHER, AND FRONT PORCH FORUM COMES IN AND GETS 10 PERCENT OF PEOPLE TALKING,

THAT'S PROGRESS.

MICHAEL WOOD-LEWIS, COFOUNDER, FPF

and therefore wouldn't be posted on the forum. On Election Day, two supporters of incumbent state Rep. Mark Lassen (D-Burlington) posted messages urging voters to re-elect him. The writers also accused disengagement, Republican Angela Chapman, of running a campaign based on "secrecy" and on "narrow-minded opinions on a single topic."

Chapman, a 26-year-old pro-life candidate, was angry the posts went out on Election Day, letting her no opportunity to respond before polls closed. She wrote a response in which she defended her stances against Lassen as "thoroughly researched" and called her critics' characterization of her platform "incredible."

"I covered many topics in my ads and in my defense with Rep. Lassen," Chapman wrote in her reply, which called out her critics by name. "The only 'narrow-minded' opinion on a single topic" were my opponents' attacks on my pro-life views. With that said, I congratulated Rep. Lassen on his win and urge him to exercise some fiscal restraint in Montpelier."

During the passage a "personal attack" in the Lesoon supporters, Wood-Lewis refused to publish Chapman's reply. Asked about that today, he says he

is cool. "When people start attacking neighbors by name, we step in and say, 'Please attack the issue, not the neighbor,'" Wood-Lewis says. "Our mission is not necessarily about protecting one individual's perspective or something it's about providing a platform through which neighbors can communicate."

General opinions are one — maybe about one in 1000, he guesses. Only 10 users have been banned from the forum outright for continually violating terms of use. The personal touch has a lot to do with that. Wood-Lewis and his moderators review every submission personally and frequently send back notes that cross the line, asking writers to tone them down and resubmit. The moderators spend hours every day communicating with users, answering questions and tailoring the tone of their forum.

As FPF expands, some wonder whether Wood-Lewis and his team can maintain their personal touch. Jason Clark, for one, will be paying attention.

"I just can't imagine he's going to be able to do that," Clark says. "Some of the stuff that they are doing now is going to become automated, and I'd be interested to see if they can maintain what I consider to be an incredible success."

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you heard the statistic. More people die in car accidents every six months in the US than have died in commercial planes over the past 20 years worldwide. It's only logical, given that only about 20,000 people have plunged to their deaths in two decades, that I should want to help on a plane — or maybe three — to visit sights unseen. Plus, there aren't too many other ways to get there.

But, like roughly 20 percent of Americans, I'm an aerophobe — scared by an irrational fear of flying. I'm the passenger seated next to the window, listening for irregular engine sounds, while the rest of you are sipping off-mouth sips. That's me, obsessively checking the room temp, outside and outside temperature when everyone is happily watching the movie.

Nothing sufficiently horrific has ever happened to me as an effort to justify the terror. I feel bounding one I spent two years in Africa, where I caught plagues so small I had to ride in the cockpit seat. There was a robbery flight from Lubumbashi to Boma that landed — unapologetically — in Allentown. I've been on three planes that crashed down and immediately took off again, two because of severe weather; one because of another plane as the runway. But no near misses or trauma resulting from deployed slides, life vests or oxygen masks. Quite the other

No Plane, No Gain?

An anxiety-ridden aerophobe seeks help in hypnosis

BY PAULA RONITTY

are people with whom I underwent group hypnotherapy in a recent "Fear of Flying" class.

That's because fact and fantasy are indistinguishable to the nervous flier, and to the subconscious mind, according to Susan Lurie, the anxiety specialist who led the three-hour session at Burlington International Airport.

It turned out we weren't all scared of the same thing. For Tora, a young man with a nose ring and a wannabe sense of adventure, it was "being enclosed in the plane." For Lurie, a young man with a 5-year-old son, it was the security

lens — "making sure I have everything," including her little boy.

Four middle-aged women provided more details. "I'm afraid of being up there in the plane, in the sit, and I've lost control. I can't stop it, and we're going to drop," said Diane, who resorts to prayer when she flies. "I have a fear of heights that adds to that fear of falling."

Deborah, who hasn't flown in decades, worries about a potential plane attack "when the doors close" and the embarrassment that would ensue.

Jeannette has a problem with shelving to a flight itinerary. Mid-trip, she



No Plane, No Gain?

By

same findings from web research and a conversation with a pilot friend.

"Planes are designed to withstand a hundred times what they go through," he reassured us. "A plane doesn't drop because it's meant to fly. It's awkward for a plane to be on the ground. That's not where it belongs."

The theory is that those simple, childlike explanations address the same part of the brain that generates the emotional fear. Actual science can leave the weird wanting. On one of the best flights of my life — from DC to Burlington — I sat beside a pilot who spent the duration of the trip explaining every sound and bump. But that leaves no aerodynamics — sketched on a cocktail napkin — didn't enter me as a decent turbulence fight to Europe.

Lane refined the script for the last guided visualization, which he had prepared as a due for each of us, calling itineraries from surveys we'd filled out before the workshop. The narrative covered the thoughts and movements of a traveler from home to the airport and up and away. In it, Lane addressed many of our specific concerns with assurances such as "Waiting in line you feel patient this is part of your journey" and "it's a wonderful ride" so he in the air, where the plane is "flying fast." The tone was in the story, too — suggesting at the top was meant to provoke our previous positive visualization.

Sound crazy? No crazier than Freud's accidental triggering of childhood memories with a tax-deductible cookie.

Lane discovered he had a gift for coaching aerophobes on a small plane flight from Burlington to Boston in 2005. A lone passenger with panicking, and there were no flight attendants on board. Lane chatted him with another passenger so he could help the woman get through the flight. Breathing, talking, visualizing "After we landed," Lane said, "some of the other passengers came up to me and said, 'You were really good at that.'"

The experience worked for him, too. "The remarkable calm came over me," Lane said, acknowledging his

own struggles with anxiety. "We often can give to someone else what we can't accept for ourselves." Peril study in hypnotherapy was the logical next step. Lane specializes in helping people ease that feeling of panic, whether it originates in work, a relationship, bad habits, illness or preparation for surgery.

Lane mediates, though, calming oneself takes practice, and this group session was just a taste of what Lane does one-on-one in his Burlington based practice, Traumas & Grief Hypnotherapy. Nonetheless, by the end of the morning long "coach session," everyone reported feeling less worried about flying. Deborah and Jennifer made appointments to do individual work with Lane.

Deborah spoke for all of us when she observed, "I'm really surprised the techniques this has in the rest of my life."

I took Lane's compact disc home and listened to it, twice, in the course of writing this story. But whenever RTV came on I got drawn from the screen disappears when two planes within two days had to make emergency landings at RTV. One landing involved a wing-flap problem. The other had to do with an open door and steering. For whatever reason, headlines such as "Flight Makes Emergency Landing" make a bigger impression on my subconscious than do visions of myself bethinking in midflight.

Another thing came up, too: an opportunity to spend three days in a warmer climate, with almost all expenses paid. I came up with lots of good reasons why I shouldn't go — no coach work, good snow here, the days is not enough — but the real reason for my hesitation was the air travel required. I didn't want to have to fly all day on three planes, to get there.

Lane's workshop helped me realize that determination will only take me so far.

I did book the trip eventually and paid top dollar because I waited so long. Well I'm listening to Lane's soothing track in preparation. Indeed, and as the plane, if they let me, I don't know if I can live up to the wood inlaid on my seat, though, without faking it a little. It helps that the comfortable plane I'll be immigrating in my mind's eye looks a lot like where I'm going. ☐

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Cat Tracks

At Sugarbush's Allyn's Lodge, getting to and from dinner is as exciting as the meal

BY LAUREN COOK

In December 1988, Ira Schecter and his two children, Allyn and Evan, boarded the family's single-engine Beech 65A airplane in Westchester County, N.Y., bound for Warren, Vt.

The three were heading to meet the children's mother for a few days of skiing at Sugarbush, but seconds after takeoff, the plane crashed, and all three passengers were killed.

The family loved Sugarbush — the resort was their second home. Allyn, in particular, adored the mountain. After climbing down from the top of Lincoln Peak, she would often stop to shake off the cold at the warming hut on neighboring Gold Peak, her favorite spot.

Today, thanks to a gift from the Schecter family, that love-hate hut is a mid-mountain lodge that bears Allyn's name and stands as a memorial to the passionate skier. When the Schecter children's mother funded the renovation in 1999, she insisted on just one stipulation — that Allyn's Lodge stay open 24 hours a day, every day, year round, for anyone who needed respite.

On a recent Saturday night, that person in need of respite was me. After

a harrowing, white-knuckle drive along the twists of snow-caked Route 3008 and up the impossibly steep Sugarbush Access Road during a near-whiteout, I descended the soft glow of the lodge's candlelit communal dining table. And I was ready to experience a meal like no other in Vermont — one where the journey to and from the table is half the entertainment.

When the lifts are running, Allyn's is just like any other lodge, serving snacks and hot drinks to skiers and riders needing a break. But on weekend evenings during ski season, the lodge is transformed into a romantic, European-inn-style haven. For \$125 a person, diners are treated to a wine and fusilli spread, followed by a four-course meal of freshly prepared dishes set in front of a crackling fire.

The adventure lies in getting there. Driving to Allyn's Lodge isn't like heading out to just any restaurant. You can't drive up to it and park your car. There is no coat check for volunteers winter overnights. And dairy tags are generally frowned on — ski boots are perfectly acceptable dinner attire.

After lift hours, Allyn's Lodge is



Photo: Jeff Klemens/Sugarbush

DESTINATIONS

accessible by the Lincoln Limousine — a 12-passenger Polari Belly cabrio cat that looks much like a trail-grossing vehicle with seating. If you're adventurous and fit, you can also snowshoe or skin up to the lodge with a guide — an hour-and-a-half-long trip. Since I prefer being chauffeured, I chose the cat.

So did my fellow diners — the Galloph/Marley/Cantor family of Manhattan, and Jim and Terry Westhelle

— and with good reason. The cat ride up the mountain is thrilling.

When Sugahush purchased the Lincoln Limousine three years ago, it was the only resort on the East Coast to run such a cat. Cats are typically used out West for carting skiers to off-piste areas of untracked powder.

In the East, the vehicle is a novelty. Buses ferry diners to Allyn's Lodge, it allows Sugarbush to give skiers and

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Photo: Allyn's at Alpine Lodge

riders access to first tracks before the lift opens, as well as to fresh snow on Mt. Ellen after the northern peak has closed for the season.

Our trip up the mountain began with a lurch as the cat mushed to life outside the Gate House Lodge. From there, we headed uphill, picking up speed as the vehicle's track-like tread dug in and cleared up the snow. Our route

took us up Gondolier and Lower Jester to Towapeepit.

We passed the Beaver's Gate chairlift, watching our progress on the video screen at the front of the cabin. Heavy, sudden snow puffed the windshield as our driver expertly maneuvered the cat up the increasingly precipitous trail.

Within 15 minutes of leaving the base of the mountain, we arrived at Allyn's Lodge, a brick-lined, timber frame

structure with two wood-burning fireplaces and an inviting stone hearth.

We unloaded and filed into the building, which was plenty warm thanks to the well-tended fire. After shoving our jackets on tables behind the fireplaces, we returned to the main dining area for an abbreviated cocktail hour.

On a table lit with twinkling tea lights, we found pork and chicken platters topped with chutney, as well as

the resort's famous Vermont cheese and bread basket. The Galkoffs and Carter children — 15-year-old Eli Galkoff and his stepbrother, 10-year-old Nathan and 7-year-old Elliott Carter — raked into the foodie immediately and would have been happy to sash it all night.

Luckily for the adults in the room, there was more to eat than just bread and cheese. Chef Robert Rappaport started the meal with a smooth butternut bisque studded with toasted pumpkin seeds, and followed that with a mushroom and roasted-asparagus tart garnished with a small spinach salad. For the main course, Rappaport prepared pork shoulder with herbed butter asparagus and roasted red-pepper gnocchi.

Christine Mastri has been coming to Sugarbush for years with her husband, Frank Galkoff. For her, she said, the dinner was a different way to experience the mountain that she sees as a "place away from home." The family had been up the day before from New York City — Galkoff has a private jet these days — and hit the slopes less than two hours after taking off. After spending much of Saturday snowmaking time, they were ready to eat.

GOTTMADER ■ PHOTOS BY JEFFREY M. BROWN

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the resort's famous Vermont cheese and beef fondue. The Galkoffs and Carter children — 15-year-old Eli Galkoff and his stepbrother, 10-year-old Nathan and 7-year-old Elliott Carter — dashed into the foyer immediately and would have been happy to snack on it all night.

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Children aren't a common sight at the

GETTY IMAGES

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

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- *ORPHANS -*

by Kyle Kassner

Directed by Terry Lee Young

MARCH 9-16, 7:30 pm, \$20

Last week Roberta Harold of Montpelier sent us what she called "a prior of doggerel" that she had written and didn't know what to do with — and she read Kiven J. Kelleys "WTF" article about all the crowns in Burlington [See *bury 21*]. Though she was under the impression Seven Days does not publish poetry, we assured her that we do, sometimes, and that we were going to publish hers because we liked it. Here's her submission:

"It came about because I was at a writing retreat with friends in an old farmhouse, where I over a book on which I thought of first was titled *Rudyard Kipling*, but in fact said *Backyard Birding*. This was the resulting lamentation."

Backyard Birding With Rudyard Kipling

You may boast about your *troula*
As your psychology runs
As your horn and hooligan, horned and spotted one,
Not from off I've come to know
How numerous English crew
Is the reigning who old emperor of food.

For your crew will find a way
To predict a frosty day
As to how on what the others would chide,
As he'll only eat at dead,
Marrow bones or log or bad,
So it'll never cause his dinner any pain.

As it's come, come, come!
As I sweep across the fields we "farmers" yodel,
Where's a lot of good
Cleaning dead tame for food,
Though you'll never hear his song of by the birds.

For it's ring-tailors, not sterlings
Who turn up the party starlings
With your shrill shrill threads on' romantic links,
Who are caught across the land
With blowpipes in hand,
From the leamy caudrons to the London parks.

As it's come, come, come!
At the sky turns black with flapper flocks of crows,
Silent wing as noisy woods
Never up to any good,
From the viewpoint of their predatory fies.

To profess a taste for corvuls
Is considered somewhat morbid,
Since the days of Edgar Allan's ugly gloom —
As a long-term indoor guest,
I admit it'd be a pest,
Never you know where about the sitter's room.

But give that bird to me,
For it's clean up after you,
As, unlike some others, doesn't beg for food,
As 'tis plentiful all year long
As screechily, croaky song
Breaks the deadly silence of a winter meal.

For it's come, come, come!
As they stampede across the wintry woods an' fields,
In a muddle or undance,
As they're labelled by the roundness,
On a quest for put an other round meal.

Now your closest crew don't care

As it's come, come, come!

If the buzzards think the other birds superior,
For 'tis virtue has within,
So no more than Gunga Din,
Don't you judge 'em by his smoky
black exterior?



Cat Tracks

Children aren't a common sight at the Aly's Lodge dinner, says Jim Westhelle, vice president of lodging at the resort and our fellow diner on that night. Typically groups of eight or more adults make the trip up for the unique dining experience. Occasionally, though, couples on dates or smaller groups of friends make reservations. When the diners aren't already separated, says Aly's Lodge server Curtis Bedding, they should be forewarned they're going to be eating at a communal table.

**AFTER A HARROWING,
WHITE-KNUCKLE
DRIVE DURING A NEAR
WHITEOUT,
I WELCOMED
THE SOFT GLOW
OF THE LODGE'S
CANDLELIT
COMMUNAL
DINING TABLE.**

To avoid any misunderstandings

Our table of nine had no trouble breaking the ice. The two much-older younger boys had free rein in the lodge and kept entertained by—if not a way of—properties being buried in our direction.

When we finished our dinner, Risper announced that we would have dinner at Timbers Restaurant at the base of the mountain. That meant it was time to go back down. Bruce gave me one option to get to Timbers—

11 SIDE dishes

BY CORIN HIRSCH & ALICE LEVITT

Snow Fall

VERMONT FARM LOSSES FROM SNOW
As the Vermont food community continues to gather in support of Pete's Greens in Croydon following a barn-busting fire, another farm in farmland has fallen. At 5:40 a.m. last Thursday, 10 cattle were killed when their house at Stoneholm Farm in Putney collapsed under the weight of massive snow. The morning of February 6, the dairy barn at Taylor

Farm in Londonderry gave way under an avalanche of melting snow.

According to Taylor Farm's owner, Jon Wright, the dairy killed one cow. An employee, Randy Stannard, was buried in snow but was quickly rescued and hospitalized. He is in stable condition, with no broken bones. Wright says he's grateful no one else was hurt, including the seven draft horses that pull winter farm visitors on sleigh rides.

The barn collapsed once before, on February 7, 2009. Following the first one, says Wright, he was able to quickly repair. This time, he is less certain. "I'm a little daunted," he says. "For now, he hopes insurance and loans will cover enough to allow him to raise a small number of cows and continue to produce in forested Grade.

The farmer immediately sold 20 of his cows — about 20 percent of his total stock — to lighten his staff's work — to implement his staff's work — to implement his staff's work. Beyond that, Wright says, "I haven't even begun to figure out what we're going to do. People are offering to do benefit and fundraisers." While no one at the farm

sold out at press time, Wright expresses gratitude for the help of his local fire and rescue teams, and for the quiches and breads that have arrived in from neighbors.

Most importantly, Wright says he hopes his and the other seven farm families will make "Vermont's" own resilience. "So many Vermont farms are really in dire straits right now," he says. "Vermont has had to rally around its farmers and not wait until a barn collapses. I can't emphasize enough that I'm not the only one struggling."

— A.L.

SARAH GRIESER • WPTV

Feeling Groggy

BY CORIN HIRSCH

Rum has a solid pedigree, as well as a local one. Much of the rum produced to fuel the slave trade was distilled in New England in the 1700s.

Over the years, the leprechaun's hairy roots have been obscured — we now think of rum as rum, not grog instead — but rum can still carry a second-class stigma, or at least an association with frat parties and bar days. Offer rum to a friend on a sunny afternoon, and her face may crinkle. Rum and Coke for the cold? Not so much.

There is one drink, however, that bridges the apparent gulf between rum and elegance, or between rum and winter, grog.

The word is synonymous with liquid in some countries, but in an essence, grog is rum diluted with water, and watered and sweetened with lime, sugar, and spices.

The drink was born in the British Navy in the 1700s, when sailors drank biscuits, typically ate rum, instead of the stagnant, algae-laced water on the ship. Perhaps they imbibed a little too much. In 1740, British



Navy Admiral Edward Vernon — was known as "Old Grog" — decreed that Navy sailors could only take their rum diluted with water.

Given a day, the crew would have the will "dry grog" and know the raw rum, were about to face, tasting something as a port of call that had been 1700, when Parkinson finally named the drink "groggy rum."

Closer to home, rum also maintained generations of New Englanders, albeit taken hot, hot, hot. As with many British things, Americans adapted rum drinks in creative ways. Flay, once common in colonial inns, brought eggs, cream, sugar or molasses, rum and beer into a violent froth by plunging a hot iron in the mugs.

It would be curious to recommend a drink of rum dissolved in beer and rum, as we don't keep a glowing lampster poker on hand. Much easier to construct a grog — hot in its most basic form.

Feeding the drink one morning over breakfast, I wondered if Boston's (Adriano and Ruth) might play well with rum. It does. Especially when dressed up with

A MODERN GROG

4 ounces Fresh rum
2 ounces rum (such as Cuban Black)
1/4 cup
2 lemons
1/4 cup granulated sugar or maple syrup
Spoon or spriggy
Juice of 1/2 lemon orange
Lemon juice
Ginger ale
1/2 cup orange juice (optional)
Orange garnish

Blow out the atmosphere for winter with a grog that can make you feel like a summer over very hot. Mix 1/4 cup of granulated sugar or maple syrup with the juice of 1/2 lemon orange and 1/2 cup of rum. Add 1/2 cup ginger ale, orange juice and dash of bitters. Garnish with orange and lemon.

a splash of applejack and bitters. To make this drink truly local, you could substitute maple syrup for the sugar. This grog is a sharp shooter, and avoid sharp and tart all at once.

It's next to impossible for most of us to know the deep pleasure of a hot drink after a long day of trudging or riding in the frozen landscape, as our colonial forefathers did. The closest most of us come is a day spent clearing, shoveling or otherwise romping in the snow. Grog is best taken after such a day or sipped at the window while you watch someone else shovel. Either way, it'll keep the snow at bay in a gentle haze envelope you.



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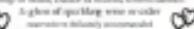
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Private Dishes

SPICY GRILLED CHICKEN THIGHS

From Eric Ripert, chef-owner, Le Bernardin

A chicken thigh (parameter: bone-in, skin-on, thighs bigger than 10 oz.)

But the requirements:
1/2 cup olive oil
1 Tablespoon pimentón (smoked paprika)
1/4 cup Telensio vinegar
1/2 cup scallions
1 Tablespoon pimentón puré

For the accompaniment:
Sautéed green onions or sautéed green
leeks
Sautéed or mashed
Cilantro Mashed Potatoes
Cilantro Mashed High-Lite Beans

Mix all ingredients together
except scallions if the chicken is not
sautéed. Let it sit, then add scallions.
A glass of sparkling wine or water
reservations definitely recommended

Serve with sour cream or crema fresca
seasoned with salt, lime juice and cilantro
and drizzled the Telensio Lime. Eric
Ripert says this recipe works for
chicken wings, as well. ☐

choice. Would a chef with such freedom to create inventive small plates have a closed favorite? No — two, at least.

"One is a taco we wanted to have on the menu until we realized the difficulty of it — a potato egg and chorizo taco," Bard says. "On a long night we wouldn't be able to do it. It's one of those things where the egg has to be fried just perfectly, so that the broken yolk emanates everything else. Now and again we'll put it on a simple menu."

Bard also sometimes prepares, for himself or staff, a taco of habanero pork and seberg henrice with the restaurant's ranch dressing. It sounds unusual, but served with a fist of radish and spoonfuls of cilantro, it's wet, messy and really sweet — a power chilid for the simplicity of great Mexican food.

Bard, who will travel to Los Angeles this spring for a race-track tour, offered his recipe for egg chilaquiles this time. Given the chance, he'd prefer to use hunting eggs — "scratching a little bit smaller," he explains, to keep the small tortillas he makes himself in the kitchen. ☐



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KEVIN CLEARY

Chef, El Manantial, Burlington

The first thing that springs to Cleary's mind is casserole. Then he remembers, "We lived in Hawaii for two years, and I really miss the casseroles out there. It's almost Italian in a way, because it's so simple and everything is incredibly fresh."

Though he thinks New England has the best shellfish in the world, Cleary asserts that the seafood in Hawaii is fresh enough to be prepared simply — in addition, for instance, which is what Cleary does in Hawaii. He adds, "We used to go and buy fish at the fish market and do it on the spot. You'd get it down and see this really nice piece of opah [deep-water snapper], served with some sticky rice and sautéed carrots and squash from down the street — you really didn't need anything more than that. Maybe some purple basil?"

JOSHUA BARD

Chef and co-owner, Frida's Taqueria & Grill, Stowe

At Frida's, Bard gets to play with rabbit, octopus and cod in his authentic Mexican dishes. The menu's creativity is reminiscent of Oaxacan

POTATO, EGG & CHORIZO TACO

From Juanita and Chezette, owners of Frida's Taqueria & Grill, Stowe

1/2 pound potatoes, 1/2 lb. chorizo
1/2 pound shredded cheddar cheese
4 small eggs
4 corn tortillas, heated just before serving

For potatoes: Boil water, bring them to a simmer, then just pour them down drain. For chorizo: Soak just until it's cooked, then dice. For cheese: Shred it. For eggs: Beat the ingredients in an egg. For tortillas: In the meantime, fry or poach an egg, making sure to turn it often. Top with potato, chorizo, cheese and tortilla. Wrap it up with each egg, top with salsa verde, then salsa.

SALSA VERDE

1 pound tomatoes, crushed
1/4 cup green onions, sliced
2 cloves garlic
1 bunch cilantro, stemmed and washed

Place all ingredients in a blender and add salt to taste.

More food after the
classified section. page 10

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QUALIFICATIONS: Must be committed to social justice. Bachelor's degree preferred. Relevant experience in areas such as housing counseling, low income advocacy OR experience from which relevant applicable knowledge and skills have been gained. A good driving record and access to a private vehicle is necessary. 20 hours/week. \$13/hour, except loc. benefits.

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In person or cell phone, team, starting this month

Qualified candidates must:
• have at least 1 year of experience interacting with customers after hire or in a related environment
• be proficient using the internet, internet often and learning new software

Be patient and friendly on the phone
• have the ability to maintain attention to details in a very fast paced environment

Have excellent verbal and written communication skills

Be able to work independently with minimal supervision as well as part of a team

Experience and interest vegetable and flower gardening is a plus

American Meridians is hiring a number of part-time and full-time employees for the summer months. We are looking for individuals who are looking for a variety of work, including night and weekend shifts, as well as daytime hours. These positions pay an hourly wage and do NOT include benefits. Please email resume and cover letter to jobs@americanmeridians.com

Due to the high number of applicants we are unable to accommodate phone inquiries or walk ins. American Meridians is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE)



Vermont Commons School is looking for a full-time (12 mos.)

Business Manager

To oversee all aspects of day-to-day financial reporting, human resources, employment regulation, and risk-management. Please visit SchoolSpring.com for more information and to apply.



Maple Leaf Farm,

an important substance-abuse program.
Has the following positions open?

Full-time Licensed Clinical Social Worker and/or master's-level Mental Health Professional with a CADC/LADC

Duties include group and individual addictions counseling and case management as well as IOP group facilitation. Ideal candidate will have at least five years post-master's experience providing substance abuse treatment to a diverse population of adults; excellent writing and group facilitation skills; and knowledge of short-term cognitive behavioral treatment approaches with persons diagnosed with substance-use disorders and co-occurring mental-health disorders.

3/5 part-time evening Milieu Counselor,

Identify with experience in the field of addictions treatment. To provide supervision to a population of adult males and females who are recovering from the effects of alcohol/drug dependency.

Per diem Counselors

for evenings and weekends.

Identify with experience in the field of addictions treatment. Responsibilities include group addictions psycho-education/counseling and milieu management.

The ability to work cooperatively within a clinical team is a must. Individual and group supervision provided. For more information regarding our program and available employment opportunities please visit our website www.mapleleaf.org

Email cover letter and resume to:
hr@mapleleaf.org, or mail to: Michael A. Zacharias, Ph.D. — Clinical Director, Maple Leaf Farm, 10 Maple Leaf Rd., Underhill, VT 05486

TOWN OF DUXBURY ROAD FOREMAN

The Town of Duxbury seeks a full time Road Foreman. Duties include personnel management, maintenance, repair and construction of town highways, bridges, facilities and equipment, snow and ice removal, purchasing supplies, developing and managing budgets, job safety, interacting with the public, soil profile planning and supervision. The Road Foreman supervises a two-member road crew and vehicles as necessary. Requirements: CDL, high school diploma or GED, five years experience in highway maintenance or equivalent construction experience, and extensive knowledge of highway construction procedures and methods. Prior experience not used to resultant an application.

Submit application with salary history and references to: Duxbury Town Clerk, Attn: Road Foreman, 3421 VT Route 100, Duxbury, VT 05636

SHARED LIVING PROVIDER

CCS is seeking couples or individuals to provide home supports to individuals with developmental disabilities. The following positions include a generous tax-free stipend, ongoing supports, assistance with necessary home modifications, respite and a comprehensive training package.

SUPPORT A CHARMING MAN either to his apartment or your accessible home. He enjoys movies, being a part of the self-advocacy movement and his job at the airport. The ideal candidate will have good communication skills, possess, enjoy socializing and give to the community.

SUPPORT AN ACTIVE, SOCIAL, AND INDEPENDENT MAN in your home. He enjoys cooking, the arts and socializing with others. The ideal candidate will have a sense of humor, be able to assist that man with accessing the community and support him in accessing and maintaining his independent living skills.

SUPPORT A KIND, HUMOROUS GENTLEMAN who enjoys being involved in the community and in social settings. The ideal candidate will be present, flexible and have strong interpersonal and communication skills.

Contact All Progen at allprogen@ccs-vt.org or 802-455-0811 x168 for more information.

Champlain Community Services
312 Tay Avenue, Suite 1
Colchester, VT 05446
ccs-vt.org

EOE


Champlain Community Services

Dawn Fischetti Maura PLLC
is seeking a full-time

LEGAL SECRETARY

to our Burlington office to assist in contract drafting, general practice, grants, special funds available to assist law students of five years law or equivalent experience, law graduate in West, and fluent in French and English

Must be willing to work a 40-hour week, some travel required, and very heavy positive drug-free, provide references, have law and experience pay

Business to pcat@fmlaw.com



CO-MANAGER

Shoe Boutique

Successful, mature salesperson in downtown Burlington seeks a special position to help manage a fun, popular retail business. Responsibilities, managing day-to-day operations and developing daily store operations and closing the bottom line are some key qualifications desired for the right candidate. If you feel an opportunity to grow and see willing to share in your sell, call (802) 658-6006.

Request Mary Lou



Landis Hospitality

Landis Hospitality

Landis Hospitality

Landis Hospitality

Guest Services Front Desk / Housekeeping / Laundry

Seeking individuals to work on front desk. Ideal candidate should have excellent customer service skills, should be reliable and must be able to work a combination of weekdays & weekends.

Previous hotel experience preferred

Apply online at LandisHospitality.com

BioTek®

CUSTOMER CARE SPECIALIST

BioTek is a world leader in the design and manufacture of high-performance, miniaturized, fluorescence instrumentation and software used to accelerate drug discovery and aid in the advancement of life sciences research. Because of our continued growth, we are currently seeking an enthusiastic, energetic, customer focused individual to join our Marketing Customer Care team.

Primary responsibilities include: providing pro-active and comprehensive customer care to the domestic representatives, sales managers and customers; managing customer leads, quotes, bills and orders; process accurately, utilizing various software programs. Successful candidates with other experience with respect to delivery schedules, accounting issues and meeting customer requirements is essential. This individual will be required to attend trade shows and representative sales meetings when needed.

Qualifications include: five years of previous customer service experience, preferably in a manufacturing setting; professional and communicate, excellent telephone presentation, and demonstrated ability to handle difficult customer issues and work well with team members. Experience with data entry and word processing, exceptional organizational skills, and a willingness to work extra hours including weekends and evenings with some travel is also required. Associate's degree preferred.

BioTek attributes its success to our dedicated employees, and offers a varied yet professional and respectful work environment, as well as an excellent benefits package. To learn more, please visit our website at www.bitek.com. Please apply by submitting resume to hrresumes@bitek.com or mail them to:

Human Resources
Bitek Instruments, Inc.
P.O. Box 998, Highland Park
Winooski, VT 05404
No phone calls please
EOE/AA

802.860.7152 800.860.7152

**The Grand Isle Supervisory Union
is seeking a
TWO YEAR INTERIM
Superintendent of Schools**
For a detailed description of the position, please visit
www.gis.org.
Application deadline is February 12.

**Sprint Delivery is looking for
Drivers** with a clean
driving record. To drive new
CDL-A straight trucks.
Pay ranges between \$115-
\$125 per day. Must be
able to pass drug
and background
check. Call
802.388.9048



VERMONT ADULT LEARNING

www.vtadultlearning.org

A member of *Education in Motion*

EMPLOYMENT SPECIALIST

Part Time, Middlebury

Working collaboratively with state agencies and local employers the Employment Specialist assists Ranch Up clients in enhancing job skills and employment. 30 hours per week.

Roslyn office/employment benefits including medical, dental, retirement, long-term disability, life insurance and generous flexible paid time off.

Middlebury Adult Learning is a non-profit provider of adult education and library services.

Visit: [www.vtadultlearning.org](http://vtadultlearning.org) for more information.

Resumes Due: February 22, 2011

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



Counseling Service of Addison County, Inc.

Because a Part of Our Exceptional Town

Adult Outpatient Division

Emergency Team Chairman: Workload: Setting up emergency, trouble shooter/mental health crisis line to provide phone and face to face crisis intervention. Requires excellent assessment skills, sound clinical judgment, strong crisis orientation, and commitment to community mental health. Excellent experience, supervision and rapport preferred. Prior experience providing mental health services in community settings is desirable. License preferred. For 8 hrs or 16 hr/face, some evenings as possible. Benefits available. Applicant must live within 30 minutes of Middlebury.

Community Rehabilitation and Treatment Division

Crisis Support Services Coordinator: Setting Middlebury local mental health professional with strong familiarity to recovery approaches (i.e. coping with major mental health conditions) as well as excellent leadership, organizational and learning skills to oversee an innovative new project designed to create new resources for adults coping with mental health crises in Addison County.

Responsibilities will include coordinating a 1-2 day crisis support program co-located at a group home as well as initiating other crisis support services in collaboration with our Emergency Team. This is a full time benefit eligible position. Applicant must have a valid drivers license.

Crisis Support Consultant: Setting Middlebury local or out of state recent mental health professionals with strong experience, compassion, state and a strong familiarity with recovery approaches for coping with major mental health conditions to participate in an innovative new project offering residential support, supportive counseling, and service coordination for adults coping with mental health crises in Addison County. Responsibilities will include assisting with staffing a residential crisis support program as well as crisis off site crisis service consultation. This is a full time benefit eligible position. Applicant must have a clean, valid drivers license.

Direct Care Provider: Provide direct care to individuals with mental illness and share in the development of a living environment which challenges and encourages each individual to achieve their potential. Good working knowledge of the needs and abilities of the mentally ill at minimal Associate Degree in appropriate field plus two to four years of relevant experience in working with mentally ill or certificates of education and experience from which comparable knowledge and skills are acquired. Part time hours and all shifts available.

Youth & Family Division

Intensive School Support Program Interventions: To provide direct intervention and training to foster the development of communication skills, adaptive behavior, daily living and academic or pre-academic skills to children diagnosed with Autism, Specific Developmental Delays, Balanced Personality Deficit, dysgraphia, preferably in education or human services field. These are 37.5 hour per week benefit eligible positions.

For a complete list of Job Opportunities

visit www.vtadultlearning.org

Apply to: CABOT Human Resources 10 Main Street Middlebury,
VT 05759 mailto:hr@cabotcheese.com
(802) 388-5751 ext 425

Equal Opportunity Employer

Project Manager/ Producer



Come join our expanding Marketing Team! We have a full time opening for a Project Manager/Producer based in Middlebury VT. This may be feasibility to work from a Burlington location. This position is responsible for the complete lifecycle of online and offline projects from development to delivery. This includes working with key stakeholders on projects, managing resources, budget tracking and analysis of projects. This PM/Producer will work closely with the Director of Integrated Services and other key stakeholders to understand scope of project and insure delivery based on business requirements.

The successful candidate must have prior interactive/digital media & traditional agency experience. 3+ years of interactive project management experience. Comprehensive knowledge of interactive/online communications projects. Solid experience of successfully developing projects from start to finish. Strong interpersonal skills and ability to be a leader in high pressure situations. Basic understanding of various web languages. Ability to create basic wireframes and a strong web and technical knowledge & capacity to stay ahead of the technology curve. Bachelor's degree preferred.

Cabot offers a competitive starting salary and excellent benefits package. Please send resume and cover letter to

Human Resources Department:

Cabot Creamery

One Main Farm Way

Middlebury, VT 05752

Phone: (802) 388-3882

Fax: (802) 388-2173

Email: hr@cabotcheese.com

HR M/F/D/V

CLIENT SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE

Fast-paced local web design firm is seeking a talented, energetic professional to provide exceptional customer service to our clients.

In this role, you will work independently and as part of a team to mentor our clients and simplify. Each day will be different and provide you with the opportunity to make decisions that ensure successful client expansion. You will take the initiative to identify and resolve client issues, schedule and coordinate work requests and establish solid client relationships. Attention to detail and a commitment to timely follow through with our customers are required. We're looking for someone who can perform these functions efficiently and communicate with clarity to our customers via phone and email.

This full-time position offers a competitive salary and benefits. Come help Vermeer Design Works continue an exceptional level of customer service.

To request an interview, please submit a cover letter, resume, and three references to jobs@vermeerdsg.com

Vermeer Design Works
www.vermeerdsg.com

POSITIONS AVAILABLE THROUGH **Gallagher, Flynn & Company**

Gallagher, Flynn & Company is involving local companies with searches for the following positions:

Financial Analyst

Help manage costing and inventory, prepare monthly financial packages, special projects. Position could grow to Accounting Manager. BS plus five years of finance work in manufacturing required. Burlington area.

Manufacturing Engineer

Provide support to shop floor, engineering, purchasing, quality and material administration. Problem solving to improve manufacturing capabilities, quality and efficiency. Team experience required; three to five years of manufacturing experience desired. Burlington area.

Senior Design Engineer

Plan and direct projects through all stages of design, development, manufacture, test and commissioning. Provide client technical support. BSME plus 8-10 years of manufacturing engineering design with industrial setting, machinery required, plus SolidWorks and ASME code knowledge. Burlington area.

Human Resource Generalist

Benefits administration and related coordination, FMLA, workers' comp administration, maintaining employee files, updating HRIS/payroll system. Degree plus three years of HR administrative experience desired, preferably in manufacturing. St. Albans area.

Please submit resume and cover letter for any of the positions described above to:

Frank Sadowski
Gallagher, Flynn & Company
fsadowski@gfc.com

**Full-Time Attorney**

Vermont Legal Aid needs a full-time attorney for its Mental Health Law Project located in Winooski. VLA represents at no-cost to clients to verify/establish health insurance in civil proceedings in Vermont, including all patients at Mental State Hospital. Position involves a substantial trial practice as well as advocacy for the rights of persons labeled mentally ill and for improvement of the mental health system in all forums. Applicant must have excellent writing and oral skills and demonstrated experience in public areas of law (civil rights law or legal advocacy). Applicant must be admitted in the Vermont Bar or willing to sit for the next examination.

Salary: \$40,000+ D.O.E. and excellent fringe benefits. Send resume, references and writing sample by February 23 to:

Eric Sanderlin, Executive Director
100 University Park
Montpelier Legal Aid
P.O. Box 1367
Burlington, VT 05401

Equal Opportunity Employer. www.vermontlegalaid.org/employmentopportunities.html

CHAMPLAIN FARMS**IMMEDIATE OPENINGS!**

Colchester

PT Tech Clerk (day shift, possibly some nights) available and welcome. Baking/cooking experience preferred.

PT Clerk Must be available all shifts, nights, weekends and holidays.

Contact Crystal at 158 Roosevelt Highway, Colchester

Winooski

PT Assistant Manager

Prior experience preferred. Must be available all shifts, nights, weekends and holidays.

Contact Judi at javid@champlainfarms.com.

PT Clerk Must be available all shifts, nights, weekends and holidays.

Contact Amber at 200 East Allen St., Winooski

Enseburg

PT Clerk Must be available all shifts, nights, weekends and holidays.

Contact Cheri at 127 Main St., Freeport
No phone calls, please!

**ADKARIA COUNTY
HOME HEALTH
AND HOSPICE****BUILDING & PROPERTY MANAGER**

We are seeking an experienced and licensed Building & Property Manager to manage the day to day and long term maintenance of our 800+ sq. ft. property and grounds.

This individual will be responsible for leading cleanliness and maintenance, and upkeep of the property including mechanical, electrical, plumbing, optics and control systems. Develop/manage outside vendor contracts as deemed necessary to maintain required equipment, preservation. Coordinate procurement of equipment, supplies and related areas compliance with all applicable state and federal codes, laws, standards and regulations. Building experience and/or in-depth knowledge dealing with HVAC, electrical, plumbing, mechanical and control systems within the total framework of building maintenance. Project/program to improve the work environment knowledge of OSHA, MSDS, safety and security issues as described.

This is a "hands-on" position responsible for the supervision of our part-time custodial staff and one per day maintenance help. We require that this individual be accessible 24/7 via paper or hand-held device to emergency situations.

The position requires specific vocational knowledge and technical expertise in a variety of areas. Knowledge HVAC, electrical, plumbing is desirable. A license to operate Thread Non-Community and Non-Thread Non-Community water is preferred. In addition, the individual must have 2 years progressively responsible experience in building systems, project and ground maintenance, as well as 3 years supervisory experience. This is a management position requiring a minimum of 30 hours per week reporting directly to the Executive Director.

Interested parties should send their letter of interest with resume to resumes@adkaria.org or directly to:
**C. Piquette, Director, Human Resources, ADKARIA,
P.O. Box 354, Middlebury, VT 05753**



GROW YOUR CAREER IN A PLACE YOU'LL LOVE

Benefits Specialist, HR, Worker's Comp/Disability

At Fletcher Allen, we've brought humanity, hope and healing to our friends and neighbors for over a century. As HR professionals, we are also called to give the best of ourselves to our patients and their families. This position is open due to a promotion, and requires experience with Worker's Comp and Disability programs.

Join us and develop the career you want

- ✓ Professional development
- ✓ Meaningful work
- ✓ Career growth



Learn more and apply online at:
FletcherAllen.org

We are an Equal Opportunity
Employer M/F/D/V

FLYNN CENTER

The Flynn Center for the Performing Arts seeks applicants for a full-time position with benefits in the Facilities Department of northern New England's premier performing arts center.

CHIEF CUSTODIAN

The Chief Custodian is responsible for coordinating, overseeing, and carrying out a full range of custodial and support services for the presentations, programs and building and grounds operated by the Flynn Center.

Responsibilities include: coordinating and carrying out daynight of-show house and backstage custodial functions; managing school bus parking for student matinees; general custodial and maintenance duties, including snow removal, and the ability to function as back-up for the Director of Facilities.

Requirements include: the physical ability to do heavy custodial work, positive helpful demeanor, a vehicle and a driver's license with a clean DMV record; the ability to work a flexible schedule and good basic trades/mechanical skills. Residence in close proximity to the facility and experience with HVAC systems a plus. High school diploma or GED and prior commercial experience.

Visit us at [www.flynncenter.org](http://flynncenter.org) for a more detailed description.

Send a cover letter and resume by February 18, 2011 to:
Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Human Resources
Department, 153 Main St., Burlington, VT 05401,
or email recruiting@flynncenter.org.

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. EOE



MUSIC - BAND DIRECTOR(S)

Saint Michael's College in Colchester, VT, invites applications for one or two adjunct instructors to direct the Concert Band and Big Band jazz Ensemble.

They undergraduate musicians selecting and preparing appropriate repertoire, developing students' musicianship and ensemble and placing and leading concert and show tours. A relevant degree in conducting or music education is preferred. Candidates should apply online at <http://jobs.fairmontsearchgroup.com> and will be required to electronically submit a letter of application and a performance/rehearsal resume. Reference letter required—see website for full details. Deadline for application is March 1, 2011.

Chief Operating Officer Needed



Chief Operating Officer/Director of Patient Care Services

Northwestern Medical Center located in St. Albans, Vermont is seeking a strong leader to fill the role of COO/Director of Patient Care Services to join our team of caring, highly respected professionals.

The COO/Director of Patient Care Services is a member of the senior leadership team, reporting directly to the CEO, and will serve as the chief nursing officer. This individual will be responsible for driving clinical integration, ensuring the highest level of customer service, and overseeing and managing the operations of the Nursing and Clinical Departments. The COO plays a key role in positioning the organization for national recognition for clinical excellence.

Successful candidates will have strong business acumen with experience in the development of service lines, shared governance as well as hospital operations. Qualified applicants will demonstrate a collaborative leadership style to serve as a role model in exemplifying the mission and vision and organizational values of Northwestern Medical Center. To qualify you must have a BSN, MSN is preferred. An MBA or MHA with at least 5 years experience leading hospital clinical operations is required.

Job Code: 11-09

Apply to:

Northwestern Medical Center, Inc., HR Department
133 Fairfield St., St. Albans, VT 05458
Fax: 802.534.8434 e-mail: NMJobs@nmca.org
www.CareersatNMC.org



Licensed Psychotherapist Full-Time Clinician

The Adams Center for Mind and Body LLC is seeking one or two clinicians to join our team. We have one clinician remaining for a licensed psychotherapist and full-time clinician with at least three years of experience post licensure. We have part-time clinicians with acute experience working with strong clinicians and a desire to work as a clinician to try to treat. Candidates should be able to fit in for individual and emotional issues. Interested candidates with one of the following state EMDR level two hypnosis experience and in either mind/body psychotherapist, plant and animal to:

Suzanne N. Adams, MA

The Adams Center for Mind and Body, LLC
1233 Shelburne Road, Pheasant House B-2
South Burlington, VT 05403

The Adams Center for Mind and Body is an outpatient psychotherapy practice specializing in traditional and alternative therapies

www.thecentervt.com

Phone 802.869.1577 • Fax 802.869.1571



VERMONT ADULT LEARNING

A member of 

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Colchester: Full-Time—40 hours per week

Vermont Adult Learning, a nonprofit statewide provider of adult education and literacy services, seeks an organized and outgoing individual to provide administrative assistance at the Learning Center located in Colchester, VT.

This full-time position offers excellent benefits, including medical, dental, retirement, long-term disability. We encourage and generously flexible part-time off.

Visit our website, www.vtadultlearning.org for more information.

Answers Due: February 13, 2011

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Designed for learners. Built for the outliers.

Marketing Communications Coordinator

We're a clean energy & alternative technology company. Our Marketing Coordinator is developing and executing a marketing plan including: website, media events, print/purchase materials, sales calls and trade shows.

The person is responsible for: building and managing two trade shows each year, producing engaging collateral materials for our sales reps and dealers, and developing grassroots promotional and event marketing materials and details.

The successful candidate will have a solid grasp of marketing, media communication and customer service skills. Experience with an energy company is a plus. Experience with Print/Purchasing a plus. Must be creative, do-it-yourself, and work well in a fast-paced, multi-tasking, multi-line, in a high-energy and fast-paced environment. We're a small, dynamic player with a passion for clean energy and a desire to be a global green energy pioneer. Prior marketing experience is required.

Send resume to: Attn: Attn: Jean A. McNeil, 700 Main St., Burlington VT 05401, or email to jean@selectedesign.com.



Looking for the Perfect Fit.

WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT IMMEDIATE OPENINGS



CROSSING GUARD (2 positions)

3 hours/day split into 4 school days
Send info of application, resume
and three references to job apply on
position.

Superintendent's Office

c/o Superintendent
Winooski, VT 05404
(802) 655-0485

www.wsd.k12vt.org

Applications accepted until position filled. All employees receive 100% o
annual sick days. EOE

Senior Vice President for Operations and Finance

The Institute for Sustainable

Community, an international

nonprofit, is seeking a Senior Vice President for Operations and Finance. This position

provides the leadership and

management resources

and financials that prepare

the Institute to achieve its

mission. Success of candidate

has the ability to create and

innovate, in a multi-year

plan, a multi-year budget, manage

multiple budgets, manage

diverse financial services,

analyze information technology

systems and strategic

alumni resources for growth

and stability. International

development experience

and an understanding of non-

profit financial reporting

required. [See website](http://www.vtadultlearning.org) for

full details and application

instructions.

 Sustainable
Communities

EOE An Equal Opportunity Employer

Energy Efficiency Engineer and Technology Consultant

Burlington, VT

Smart Gridding seeks an experienced individual to join our energy efficiency consulting practice. We offer consulting services with a range of expertise including energy audit/assessing, research and analytical analysis, residential and commercial buildings, building envelope, insulation, windows and doors, and energy efficiency programs and policy planning and evaluation. Qualified candidates will have strong interest in energy efficiency in buildings, and a strong experience in engineering, leadership experience in electrical or general engineering, and at least 2 years of relevant experience. Candidates with LEED and related experience helpful.

Please send resume, cover letter and three references to info@smartgridding.com with "Vermont" in the subject line. We will respond at your request.

Financial Manager

Selected Design is seeking a Financial Manager. We are a trend development company headquartered in Burlington, Vermont. We are a dynamic, fast growing company that creates and offers visual solutions for every customer's engagement. Our clients include Paper, Most, Hormel, Burton, Betreude, Timberland and Dunkin Donuts. We conceptualize, aggregate, analyze, produce and produce and deliver them in a timely manner. We are the first to market with all external growth. In essence, that our process is efficient, innovative and cost effective.

This position will lead our finance and admin team in Burlington, as well as providing administrative oversight of our office in Telchak, Taiwan. Responsible for all financial tasks, but not limited to: management of all financials, AP/AR, bank accounts, cash flow, financials, oversight of credit policy for domestic and international vendors and clients, monthly and annual reconciliation and budgeting.

AN APPROPRIATE CANDIDATE WILL:

Appreciate our culture and be committed to adding to it. Be a dynamic team player, able to work with senior management, clients, and partners and be able to lead the team to their vision to the ultimate success.

Envision a fast, creative environment and exhibit a curiosity as it relates to evolving and growing our administrative capabilities.

The most important qualities for this position are a passion for doing great work, the ability to work collaboratively, a desire to learn, a positive attitude, strong leadership skills, and the ability to work well with others, communicate clearly, and have experience working with confidential information. A working knowledge of Microsoft Office, database maintenance is preferred, but not required.

Salary based on full experience and features mentioned above. Benefits include 401K, profit sharing, health, dental, pet insurance, and an amazing work/life.

Email resume & letter of interest to careers@selectedesign.com

Visit www.selectedesign.com for more info



FUEL FOR
INNOVATION
BURNING
BRIGHT



Renewable Energy Research Center

Renewable Energy
Research Center

Executive Director

The Biomass Energy Research Center (BERC) is a national nonprofit corporation based in Madison, Vermont, is seeking a creative executive director to build on our successful work in establishing community-scale biomass applications for environmental benefit and community economic development.

The ideal candidate will share BERC's commitment to developing renewable biomass energy projects. Reporting to the Board of Directors, he or she will provide leadership through the organization's day-to-day affairs, and work with the board and staff to chart its future direction.

The position does not require a technical background in biomass or renewable energy, but an understanding of renewable energy issues, policies, and opportunities, especially at the institutional and community levels, is highly desirable.

For more information on BERC and a full job description, visit www.bercvt.org

To apply, email resume, cover letter and salary requirements to
Nancy@bercvt.org
BERC Search Committee
c/o PVRS Inc.
107 Elm Street, Suite 180-D
Portland, ME 04101

Resumes resumes will begin on February 15, 2011.
BERC is an equal opportunity employer.

HowardCenter

DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

INTERNAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKER

Ensuring 50 year old man on the autism spectrum with a great sense of humor and active lifestyle needs 20 afternoons/ hours of support in the Bethlehem/Burlington area. This job thrives with structure, and someone who is confident and comfortable, understanding and sensitive to communication issues. Consistently apply to expand your clinical knowledge. Learn practical behavior management strategies and different communication techniques. Ideal candidate is a non-gender male who also enjoys reading, going to the gym and hiking. Benefits include:

CRISIS INTERVENTION SPECIALIST

Seeking a skilled and dynamic individual to provide crisis supports for people with developmental disabilities. Ideal candidate will have a combination of significant clinical and interpersonal skills. 36 afternoons/ weeks, nights and potentially weekends. Bachelor's degree preferred. Outstanding opportunity for graduate students.

RESIDENTIAL INSTRUCTOR

The sober South Burlington home offers the right combination: detail- and team-oriented; the chance to work with an energetic team providing residential support and training to six developmentally disabled women. Focus of the work is in their living, residential skill development, and taking part in recreational and community activities. They run every day while growing professionally and personally. Some personal use and overnight duties required. 40 hours/ weeks, nights/ weekends.

TRAINING SPECIALIST

21-year-old man in training for 25 hours of voluntary support. She enjoys taking classes at the Resource Center, visiting with friends, music, and attending social activities. Ideal candidate is a non-gender male/female with a gentle, outgoing approach. Schedule is 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Benefits eligible.

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Sixty-year-old man with moderate cognitive/physical challenges support for The Children's Clinic (Burlington's methadone clinic) (This is a part-time position). The candidate should possess excellent computer skills including Word, Excel, Power Point, and Outlook. Excellent writing skills are a plus. The candidate should be able to demonstrate high level skills in organization, multitasking, priority management, stress management and time management. Candidate must have the ability to independently manage assigned projects with minimal supervision. Candidate must be able to successfully pass a background check. Educator, high school diploma required. Work experience: Minimum 2 years experience in the workplace, or in a conditional educational environment, from which comparable knowledge, skills and/or experience could be acquired. Afternoon evening/ weekend coverage may be required.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Seeking a full-time individual to provide administrative support for The Children's Clinic (Burlington's methadone clinic) (This is a part-time position). The candidate should be proficient in using Microsoft Office Suite including Word, Excel, Power Point, and Outlook. The ideal candidate will be familiar with data entry and existing and running reports. The candidate should be able to demonstrate high level skills in organization, multitasking, priority management, stress management and time management. Candidate must have the ability to independently manage assigned projects with minimal supervision. Candidate must be able to successfully pass a background check. Educator, high school diploma required. Work experience: Minimum 2 years experience in the workplace, or in a conditional educational environment, from which comparable knowledge, skills and/or experience could be acquired. Afternoon evening/ weekend coverage may be required.

CLINIC/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - METHADONE CLINIC

The Children's Clinic (the methadone program in Chittenden County) is seeking 2 full-time substance abuse clinicians who will provide individual and group counseling to patients who are opioid dependent. Patients will require the candidate to establish and maintain clinic records, address individual patient progress/treatment, and coordinate care. Candidates must have a master's in counseling or social work, and/or other working towards licensure in substance abuse treatment. Attention, caring one-on-one coverage may be required.

EMPLOYMENT COORDINATOR

Full-time position working on-in-service based, supported employment program assisting individuals who are recovering from mental illness with their employment and educational goals. Responsibilities include community-based assessment, skill and content level development, a wide range of jobs in the community and a desire to work in a subspecialty area. Bachelor's degree in human services, 2 years human services work experience, valid Vermont drivers license, organized, reliable and knowledge of community resources required. Knowledge of the Burlington business community preferred.

NURSE, CHITTENDEN CLINIC

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 43

One Star Chef Replaces Another at Topnotch

VERMONT RESTAURANT AT
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202-6445

Wondering what's happened to AARON JOSEPH since he flew away from **BAKERS** seven days last year? The chef has finally landed — at **VERMONT RESTAURANT** at Topnotch



Mark Hains

Restaurant in Stowe. But Joseph isn't resting. His official role is *assistant chef* and he's working closely with chef de cuisine **CHRISTIAN GARNIER** to prepare for his big departure later this spring.

The resort's menu under Joseph's menu has taken a turn toward the rustic meals that made him a James Beard Foundation award nominee at the Baking. The chef's recent specials have included sweet breads and baked pig cheeks. Heavily sausages and charcuterie are now a part of the regular menu.

Joseph replaces **MARK HAINES**, who finished his two-year tenure at Topnotch at the end of August with Thomas left Vermont following his recent divorce and put out a call to his friend David Rocco,

executive chef of the **Four Seasons Hotel** elation, to keep him on until for my opening. Just before Christmas, says Thomas phoned him with an offer — the executive chef position at the **Acadia Club**, the 50-year-old restaurant at the **Four Seasons Resort** in Washington, D.C.

"They either day one of the embassies is eating here," Thomas recalls. "It's only like it's a comeback to the big leagues."

Though Thomas has left, Vermont, he says he makes a point of frequent visiting policies a taste of the **Green Mountains**. "I do still do the Vermont," he says. "I'm serving all Vermont cheeses down here."

Those who hope to try Thomas' fare without a trip to the capital are in luck. He says he'll be at this year's **VERMONT CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL** at **TRAPPERY** (1000 Colchester) on Vermont's old time's sake.

— K.H.

A Bigger Slice of the Pie

CONNELL'S KITCHEN + SODA 4 SODA ST., BURLINGTON, 429-5429 CONNELLSKITCHEN.COM
Earlier this month, Harwick's Matt Ruppert gained a new face **CHRISTIAN RAPPERT**, a baker with rich family roots.

The baker was recruited for nearly two decades under local baker **CHRISTIAN RAPPERT**, a baker with a plate of donuts that sold out at a 1991 presser. "My mom was always a very good cook. The [bakery] pie is probably as the high as it's ever been," says **CHRISTIAN RAPPERT**, Ruppert's daughter and proprietor of the new eatery. Ruppert turned out her signature pies, cookies, cakes and soufflés, for three months

every summer, taking them in her garage and selling them to wholehousers.

In 2006, Goodrich was working for the state of Vermont when her mother was diagnosed with cancer. She took a leave of absence to help with the business during her mom's treatment. When it appeared the cancer might win, Goodrich quit her job and joined Connell's permanently, learning her mother's recipes.

Last summer, Ruppert succeeded to her role. After some soul-searching, Goodrich realized she wanted nothing more than to run Connell's Kitchen to the next level. "I was able to tell her before she died that I was doing this; she was happy," she says.

The 10-seat, country-themed Connell's Kitchen opened on January 26. In addition to its tried-and-true range of pies, doughnuts and other baked goods, the eatery offers breakfast and lunch sandwiches, homemade soups and **SPICER & RAE'S** soufflés.

Goodrich is sourcing as many ingredients locally as she can, such as bagels from **PAINTERSON BAGEL** and syrup (for her maple-baked bacon) from **GREEN MOUNTAIN SUGAR** and **CREAMERY** (a family dairy operation).

Now, every morning at 5:30 a.m., Goodrich starts baking. She hasn't changed anything about her mom's recipes, she says. "She taught me so well."

— C.H.

Crumbs

LETTING FOOD NEWS

CONTRIBUTOR: LORRAINE CONNOR

Connors' cornermost restaurant, **CRUMBS**, is without an executive chef after the departure of chef **CHRISTIAN RAPPERT**. The gap is being filled by two chefs working in tandem — or in competition?

Connors' previous pastry chef last October left it three months later, saying she wanted to be closer to an ailing mother, but she also cited the cold, cloudy local weather as a factor in her departure.

In her wake, Connors' sous-chef, **MARY BLACK**, has stepped up in one of two chefs at the top of the line. The other recently moved north from Austin's **Davidson Handi** to enter Iscale to Stowe in the **Durhamshire Inn** group.

"These two gentlemen are going to present the very best they have to offer [as we can], and it is what we are looking for," says **CHRIS ARIKA**, food and beverage director of the resort. "They'll be back and forth off of each other."

Ariki says the resort has undergone a face-lift in the last few weeks, with the addition of upscale comfort food items such as rotisserie-styles, New York strip steaks, and a sweetbreads dish served with fried artichokes and bacon butter sauce. "We're still maintaining the farm-to-table concept as much as we can," says Ariki.

He adds that, despite the new arrangement, the search for an executive chef is still officially on.

Shelburne eatery **King Chow** has closed its doors.

CHIN LUNG says she needs to spend more time in New York City with her mother, who has health issues. Though fairly new to Caledonia County, the Chinese restaurant was a beloved institution for 70 years before its move north.

Last week, Burlington's **Burlington** one of 10 top "bistro chains" in America. The Queen City scored high on a matrix of factors that included the mix of local to chain restaurants, the density of locally oriented food stores, farmers markets and CAsAs, and the number of craft breweries and wine bars.

Flaunting as the honoree, the wavy white apron that's as bistro-ing Burlington's food cred. That winter beat entry closed two years ago.

Other regional winners: **Portland**, N.H.; **Boston**, Mass.; and **Providence**, R.I.

— E.M.

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Honey, You Baked!

Cooking classes at Healthy Living teach couples to work together

BY ALICE LEVITT

James and I have been together for more than seven years. Besides being hot, he's the best friend I ever had. We share loves for everything from ethnography and Stephen Sondheim to professional wrestling and *Street Fighter* video games.

Of course, eating is a big part of our relationship. We generally dive out three or four times a week, and it's still exciting for us every time.

But when we're home, I do all the cooking. On occasions when I've traveled for work without him, James has survived entirely on Hungry Man dinners and muffins from Bresky's Bagel Market. His role, supposedly, is to do the dishes, but the stacks of silverware and Schlemmermorphs in our sink indicate the contrary.

When I discovered the couple's cooking classes at the Healthy Living Learning Center, I thought I might be able to shock him out of his rut. So, last month, we signed up for a class with the particularly punning title "Vegetarian Frost." Regular Seven Days readers are familiar with my abysmal blood test, but consider that, when James tried avocados for the first time, he declared it "so good I can't believe it's not meat." This was going to be interesting.

As the Learning Center director at Healthy Living, Nina Lesser-Goldsmith has taught several cooking classes each month since the Learning Center's bright and admirably organized educational kitchen opened at the end of 2009. Though she often works alone, the newlywed says she most enjoys cooking with her husband, Zach Minor. "He's

fun to cook with," she says with a smile. The pair, both culinary school grads, collaborate on courses in fundamentals of professional cooking but also make time every month to teach a couple's cooking class.

Unfortunately, we didn't get to see the lovebirds at work. Zach was hit hard with the flu the night of our class,

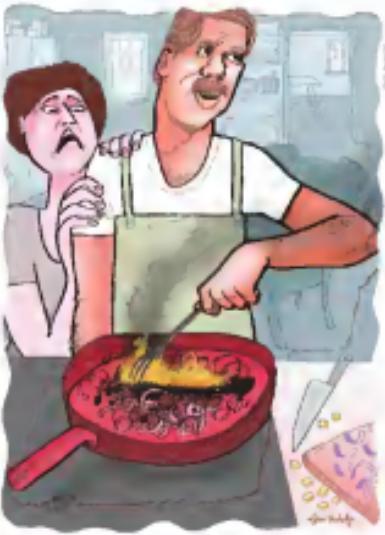
The rest of the class was just there to be a date. One of the vegetarians in attendance, Brynn Ross, had brought her husband, Matt Ryland, who admitted he didn't cook at home — "unless you consider frozen French fries." After 15 years of marriage, Ross was used to being her family's chef, she said, but when she saw the hating for the class on Healthy Living's website, she thought the evening would be a fun, romantic date without the kids.

The Lesser-Goldsmiths asked the class to assemble around the counter where Ross would demonstrate each of the dishes. First came a lesson in perfect pie pastry. An experienced — dare I say adventurous — cook, I was not expecting to learn much in the class. However, Lesser-Goldsmiths' explanations of the science behind everything from flaky pastry crust to caramelization were illuminating. We would use both techniques to prepare a winter vegetable and goat cheese galette.

Back at our workstation, carefully outlined with everything we'd need to prepare three courses, I let the pastry making to James. I'm a savvy cook, not a baker, and I hoped he might be spurred to take on that role in our household. It appeared that night not be in the cards when, after a valiant struggle, he ended up tying his apron for him.

Properly armed, James used a pastry cutter to snip two sticks of butter into two-and-a-half cups of pastry flour. That is, after a brief argument about using his hands. Lesser-Goldsmiths corrected him, saying he would overheat the dough. "Your hands are almost 100 degrees," she explained.

Its fingers thoroughly crusted with flour and butter, James continued



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First Bite

One look at Robert Pattinson as Edward Cullen in *Twilight* explains why vampires are so sexy these days. But the folkloric beings have been making ladies swoon — more from their bloodthirsty ways than from their pallid good looks — since well before *True Blood* and *Interview With the Vampire*. We have Iwan Sticler to thank for that. *Sursum: Lulu's Pendragon Theatre* pays homage to his 1987 Gothic novel *Brecole* with a touring production. There has been "so much vampire popular culture ... in the last few years," says Pendragon managing director Bob Barnes, "and we wanted to return to the original." Working from the first script adaptation of the novel, penned in the 1940s, the play is teeming with bats, blood, and other spooky "theatrical magic."

DRACULA

Thursday, February 10, 7:30 p.m., at Hartman Theater, 1495 Fine Arts Building, SUNY Pittsburgh, PA. \$2-\$13. 888-620-1947 or 512-564-2288. pendragontheatre.com



Hats Off

"Wick on your perh-pit hat, gush a slug of moonshine and cut yourself a rug," signs *Maverick* magazine, for a ragtime banjoist arrives this week courtesy of Woody Pines. The North Carolina band — composed of Mr. Woody Pines (pianist), Zach Purbrick, Nathan Taylor and Brett Gentry — delivers a dose of country blues and string band banjo with folks tunes such as "Cheer Tobacco Bag" and "Rock Gal, Poor Gal." On a tour of the Northeast, they'll take the stage at French Hall

— local girls, please them and all — as part of Rochester's *Cuba: Fever Moon* series. The monthlong lineup also includes a concert with blues artist Melvin, and summits shows every Friday and Saturday through February at Study's Books & Bakery.



WOODY PINES

Sunday, February 13, 7:30 p.m., at Athens Hill Community Center, 1400 Hillside (327-2830; melsbooks.com)

Perfect Timing

"Good night, good night! Parting is such sweet sorrow, that I shall say good night till it be morn." Today's to our night can phrase it so eloquently, but surely Shakespeare's tender words capture the bittersweetness of first love no easier the era. Still, younger audiences sometimes need convincing — so the Acting Company and Guthrie Theater switch it up in an interpretation of *Romeo and Juliet* set in the early 20th century. "Although it was a hundred years ago, there are photos and films of this period, which I think makes it more accessible,"

director Penny McCormick explains in an email. As for as the plot goes, well, swashbuckling and star-crossed lovers never go out of style.

ROMEO AND JULIET

Wednesday, February 16, 8 p.m. and 7 p.m., at Guthrie Theater, 200 University Avenue, 652-2214. guthrietheater.org/romeo-and-juliet

calendar

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10/25/13 10:45 AM

SAFETY 101 (208-28084) End 202 (Bellowsfreeport) 10 a.m.

LAW ENFORCE TEAM What's on Surveyor's Island? Board 2007 residents to learn about and practice skills of law enforcement. Techniques taught to prevent physical, emotional and sex assault health and well-being. Water Community and Recreation Center, Burlington 9-10 a.m. Free. Info: 865-5629

Art

ALLISON PLATZ GROUP Give 19-462-0208, Allendale Elementary School, 10-12:45 p.m. Free. Info: 307-3453

CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR Tues 10-11 a.m. preschoolers ages 3-5. Info: 456-2000. Public Library, Burlington 10-10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 456-2604. Website: burlingtonvt.org

CHILDREN'S STORY TIME Tues 10/16 10-10:30 a.m. Allendale

CREATIVAFUL TUESDAYS Tuesdays 10-11 a.m. Allendale Elementary School, 10-11:30 a.m. Allendale Library, Burlington 10-10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 307-3453

CREATING THURSDAYS Adults explore their imaginations with creative art projects. Tues 10-10:30 a.m. the accompanying art exhibit, *Picture This!* Loring, Burlington 10-11 p.m. Free. Info: 307-3453

CREATING STORY HOUR Tuesdays. Licensed artists ages 3-5 years. Info: 307-3453. Burlington Library 10-10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 307-3453

DRIFTY & FROSTY THURSDAY ENDS Young children are invited to a free art activity to create painted pennants. Pennellville. Dohring Memorial Library, Pittsford 10-10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 874-4326

DRIVE & SWIM The best of a year-round, world-wide choice series VTFP explores themes, interests & heroes of famous swimmers. *Swim* Free Library, Burlington 10-11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 863-1089

DRYDEN READ PICTURE STORY TIME Lessons show up with literacy for three to four year olds. Pittsford Library, Pittsford 10-10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 874-3622

ELMWOOD BIRCHES Tues 10/16 10-10:30 a.m. Allendale

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FATHER'S DAY Tues 10/16 10-10:30 a.m. Allendale

soundbites

BY DAN BELLES

Hexed

Who, or what, the hell is *Hexed*? This is the second time I've posed the question in this column, and I'm still not entirely sure. I do know, however, that the local experimental trio sends out some of the strongest PR staff I've ever seen. Take, for example, the packaging of their latest record, *Protocol*, another volume in The album arrived last week buried in — for not making this up — a large, pyramid-shaped clamshell. The disc itself was encased in foreboding silver plastic vaguely resembling a hazardous-waste bag. Tinfoil anyone? But undoubtedly provocative — which is exactly a pretty decent description of their music: creepy and provocative.

Formed in Burlington in 1993 as an "experimental sonic research collaboration," the group fuses a variety of organic and electronic instruments into a cold, shadowy maelstrom of industrial noise. Picture **THE CHEMICAL BROTHERS** and **DAFT PUNK** playing laser tag — to the death — in a roadkill, and you're in the neighborhood.

This Saturday, *Hexed* presents an art installation/album release party, with live performances, at the Off Center for the Dramatic Arts in Burlington. The installation, showcasing *will*, and *I quote*, "be an experimental art performance installation that examines the meaning of alchemy in a digital context and the resulting impacts it has on the human spectrum today's world." So... yeah. Mystery solved.

Lights Out

Songwriter **CHRIS SMITH** will drop by the United Methodist Church in Middlebury this Saturday,

February 12, as part of the *After Dark Music Series*. Though Smith is a notoriously arc-litured tunesmith, his AD gig isn't really news. Smith has played the series every year but one since its inception 16 years ago. What is news is that this appearance will be his last. After more than a decade and a half, *After Dark* is calling it quits at the conclusion of this season — with **HEART OF COWBOY** — on Friday, April 11.

In a recent email, series founder **CAROL BROWN** writes that declining attendance was the prime motivator in the decision to pull the plug. She also hints at a continuation as *Clouds*, familiar to other local concert promoters: If you book a guest artist whom no one has heard of, moving tickets can be a tough sell. On the other hand, lean too heavily on the same



rotation of acts and people will start to lose interest. That's not a problem with Smith, though. He always draws well. Still, it makes you wonder how anyone succeeds in this biz, doesn't it?

Being a small, independent promoter is a true labor of love. It's largely thankless work. And, in most cases, it's not especially lucrative. In fact, almost all the inde-

pendents I've spoken with over the years say they feel lucky when their shows simply break even. For *After Dark* to make it this long is quite a feat. Congratulations, Carol. And thank you.

BiteTorrent

I'm a big fan of August First Bakery & Cafe. It's got many sandwiches, a friendly staff and, most important, strong coffee with a smash lag distance of the 70 offices. In fact, August First has probably had more of my coffee in the last year or so than anyone else — so, if you don't like something I write, blame them. It's hard to believe, but the call is about to jump up a notch in my personal regard, as this Thursday the owners reveal what we hope will be the first of many live-music nights, "Winter Songs in August." Spearheaded by local new-wave sirens

HYRA KELLY, the lineup also includes songwriters **MARIECA**, **PARUL**, **JOHN FUER**, **LEIGH PARKE** and **MARYLYN SMITH**.

Band Name of the Week: **ASA FUSER** For someone whose primary instrument is the marimba, **JANE MORRALL** is one seriously badass chick. **Boond**, a classically trained marimba, is the drummer for Burlington violin-punk outfit **PRIME FURY** — a recent



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soundbites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 48

SMOTFW designer. Her latest band is yet another entrant into the local pack fold, not quite **COLLECTIVE**. The trio, which also includes guitarist **CHRISTINE MATHERS** and bassist **KELLY HILL**, makes its debut this Saturday at the annual **Art Park Party** at the Langdon Street Cafe in Montpelier.

All-star American too

MIKE THOMAS is back in the saddle after a brief hiatus. The band, which includes guitarist **KEVIN**, mandolinist **MATT SCHAFFNER** and bassist **PAT MEIGS**, kicks off a barn tour of local shows this Thursday at the Ben's Knees.

If there is one mortal bonds have been making since the dawn of time — or at least the dawn of bands — it's scheduling an album release party before you physically have said album in hand. That's what **ANGIE PARKER** did. The recent **ANGIE PARKER** update: Parker's rock trio with **CHRISTINE LEA** and **STEVE HARRIS**, **CLUBHOUSE**, returns to the stage this Friday at the Monkey House. **ROB PASHIER** and **WYANNAH** open. That is all.

RELEASED **PHASO BLUES**, take note: **MARK HENRICKSON** (the sky one) will deliver a special solo piano show at Parsons on Thursday, February 17, as part of **2011 ANARCHY** ongoing **Bardgurdy** Thursday series. Adler and local songwriters **AN HENRICKSON** open. Tickets go on sale right now.

Given the recent double-burned blizzard of wacky weather — lady thunderstorms — spring seems further away than ever, even though we're



linda sorta snarling the fresh line. It's true. Just ask **PHASO BLUES** Paul. There is light at the end of the tunnel, a collision fueled by our good friends at the Burlington Discover Jazz Festival. We're still a couple of months away from knowing the full lineup but bits and pieces of news have begun trickling out regarding this year's jazz jamboree. Such as this choice nugget, quietly announced last week: **REILY FLICK** WHO **THE ORIGINAL FLICKERBIRDS** will appear at BDFJ headlining performances on the Flynn Management stage Sunday, June 12. Think spring.

Last week, I left you with a riddle: "What is red and white — like, really, really white — but it's acres and loves you?" I also promised to solve said riddle this

week. But here's the thing. Technically speaking, I can't reveal the answer in these pages, because doing so would violate the only rule my esteemed employers here at Seven Days have ever really given me. Namely, that I can't write about projects with which I'm involved ... in print. This, of course, is why God invented blogs, whereinky things like "stache" and "joviality/integrity" are his strictly golden. So, if trying to crack my code has found you lying awake at night ... well, get a life. Then, log onto **Solid State** (old blogz coo/oldskool) this Friday, where all will be revealed. ☺

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Marco Boncristiano



Marco Boncristiano
Topics in **soundbites**
The Last Word
Author Bio
Comments
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Print Article

**Women's Flat Track Roller Derby
Season Opener Bout**
FEB 19th
GREEN MOUNTAIN
Derby Dames
Champagne Valley Expo
7:30PM
Tickets at FlynnTix.org
www.GNDERBYDAMES.com

Watch something LOCAL this week

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THURSDAY 1AM

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CHANNEL 19
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**THREE SHOWS
"LA Party"**

Thursday, Feb. 17, 8 pm
Friday, Feb. 18, 7 & 9 pm

"A really fantastic, hilarious, heartbreaking, and deeply emotional look at a show and the storytelling in theater. Not to mention... hilarious." —Caterina

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music

CLUB DATES

NOT AVAILABLE, ALL AGES, GENERAL



TUES 15 **THE HEAD AND THE HEART (NINER FOLK)**

Balancing Act The self-titled debut from Seattle-based sextet **THE HEAD AND THE HEART** represents the crossroads at which chamber-folk and pop intersect. Much like Bob Dylan's *Blowin' in the Wind*, the band crafts tuneful, intense sketches with an eye (and ear) toward emerging, dramatic grandeur. The result is irresistibly compelling music that is both achingly familiar and breathtakingly transcendent. **TUESDAY, February 15**, they'll open up for **WEEZER** at the Higher Ground Ballroom.

FRI 18 FEB

APR 6 FRI **David Hartman (Barenaked Ladies)**
10:30 pm. Free

LEFT (with Friday with DJ Hector Colon) (adult)

MARATHON PIZZA & POUR **Face One Previews**

Party (no food, \$10 per. Free)

MARINETTI MARCH LOUNGE **Anderson Paak** (adult)

8:30 pm. Free

MC MILLEY HOUSE **Anderson Paak** (adult) (Dodge

Station) (no food, \$10 per. Free)

WEDNES 8 **South Yonkers (from acoustic to raucous)**

7 pm. The Jukebox (acoustic) (adult) (no food, \$10)

CHI-TEA BAR & KITCHEN **The Donnas** (adult)

First Sunday (adult) \$10 per. Free

PARINA MAMU STUDIO **Opening** 5-9 pm. Free

RAISIN' IRISH **The Irish Pepper Experience** (adult)

7 pm. The Jukebox (adult) (no food, \$10 per. Free)

RADIO FLYER **212-212-9999** 10 a.m.-10

RED ROAR **Waxah (no food)** 10:30 pm. Free

RED ROAR, MELO ROOM (SUNSHINE) **Waxah** (adult)

10:30 pm. Free

SHAWN JAMES **212-917-1999** 10:30 pm. Free

WEDNES 15 FEB **Supersophie (adult)** (no food, 10 pm. Free)

WEDNES 15 FEB **Supersophie (adult)** (no food, 10 pm. Free)

WEDNES 15 FEB **Waxah (adult)** (no food, 10 pm. Free)

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CHARLES D **Starline Whiskey Shop** (adult)

10:30 pm. Free

LAURENCE STERKETTE **Laurelwood** (adult)

10:30 pm. Free

LAWSON STREET CAFE **Katherine Bees Quartet**

(adult) (no food, 8 pm. Free)

PURPLE HOG FARM **French Connection (adult)**

8 pm. Free

THE PINEKICK RESTAURANT & TAP ROOM **El** (adult) (no food, 8 pm. Free)

WEDNES 16 FEB **El** (adult) (no food, 8 pm. Free)

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TUES 16 FEB **MUSIC HALL** **Pat Flaherty (adult)**
10:30 pm. Free

WEDNES 17 FEB **Shambala Valley**

THURSDAY 18 FEB **Mark Lerner (adult)** (no food, 8 pm. Free)

CITY ALIVE **Top Hat Under-Lamplight** (adult)

9:30 pm. Free

STONY NIGHT CARE **Lam** (adult) (no food, 8 pm. Free)

TUES 21 FEB **Two Brothers Tavern** 3 Street (212) (adult)

10:30 pm. Free

THURSDAY 23 FEB

FRIDAY 24 FEB **The Headbanger (country-tragedy)**

10:30 pm. Free

THURSDAY 23 FEB **Shambala Valley** (adult)

9:30 pm. Free

WEDNES 29 FEB **Don't Tell (adult)** (no food, 8 pm. Free)

THURSDAY 1 MARCH **Don't Tell (adult)** (no food, 8 pm. Free)

FRIDAY 2 MARCH **Don't Tell (adult)** (no food, 8 pm. Free)

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REVIEWthis



Adam Reczek, *The Fork in the Road* EP

PELLEGRINO/CD CREDIT: CONNOLLY

When last we left Adam Reczek, the local timesheet had just released his 2009 debut album, *The Whistle Seat*, to less than enthusiastic acclaim. The disc revealed Reczek as very much a work in progress. Though he was a gifted and polished guitarist, his unswerving bone of inexperience, failing to measure up to his audience. In addition, his vocal performance was really inconsistent. Despite fairly melodic ideas, Reczek's debut was, frankly, kind of a mess.

The silver lining? Each of those deficiencies is correctible. Sustaining that improves with age and experience. Self-confidence can stem a reliance on musical influences. Increased attention to breath support and phrasing can move stilted to pitch. As a songwriter and singer, Reczek may not be a natural, but he's a handily good cause. He has talent, and his sophomore attempt, *The Fork in the Road* EP, suggests he is beginning to realize his true potential.

The EP opens on "Scotch & Cigars," an impeccably played acoustic instrumental that confirms Reczek's use of chops. Sparse and pretty, it proves the songwriter can conceive of and execute compelling musical ideas, at least on paper.

"September Song" features Reczek's first vocal performance on the disc. With improved focus and confidence,

his efforts immediately outshine almost anything on his debut. Reczek is still frustratingly hesitant at moments, but most of the time his tone is pure and unswerving.

On "October Song," he comes close to bridging the gap between composition and lyrical talents. The song features a sparkling progression and an expertly delivered instrumental bridge. Though Reczek's poetry occasionally farts with clichés, his writing is generally pacy and evocative, expressing a charming, wide-eyed optimism.

"Hold on to Hope" closes the EP, with mixed results. Again, Reczek's arrangement is impressive. The man knows how to put a song together. But he sounds lyrically, debasingly predictable, overly earnest, musing on love and hope. This is also his weakest vocal turn, bouncing around a scattershot melody as though he couldn't decide which voice best suited him.

Consistent with the EP's title, Adam Reczek seems to be at an artistic crossroads. He still has a way to go before he can truly be considered among the area's rising songwriters, but his improvement here suggests he's willing to put in the work to get there.

The *Fork in the Road* EP is available at iTunes. Adam Reczek is a player at a pair of this year's *Breakdown* theater series at Putney.

DAN BOLLES

Kristina Stykos With Philip Aaberg, Raven

(DAVETHEDEE/CD CREDIT: CONNOLLY)

On her third recording, *Raven*, Orange County multi-instrumentalist and songwriter Kristina Stykos blends the wild and the gentle, with both rockin' riffs and the smooth, lyrical work and synth arrangements of Philip Aaberg. He's a Veteran of *Whistler Hill* records, the flagging label of new age music, whose roster also included such artists as George Winston, Lila Stary and label founder/guitarist Bill Ackerman.

Over the course of 14 original cuts, Stykos covers a wide variety of musical terrain. She rocks out on a big, Conway

acoustic guitar on "Thing for You." On

dangerous love songs such as "Turn Off the Music" and "Seal of My Seal," she croons with a heartfelt, emotional quiet. On "Milwaukee Hills" — a current personal favorite — she charts lyrics that one could imagine riding the rise from a mountain lake at dusk.

Throughout the record, Stykos uses her considerable skill as a poet like that of a painter. She draws the listener in and captivates with a canvas of visual imagery. Her glorious, trancelike guitar riffs and Aaberg's spacy synthesizer work underpins her words, his sunlight refracted through old glass of deep but vibrant colors.

Stykos showcases Stykos' considerable talents as a multi-instrumental singer, but also as an engineer. Stykos is growing for the sounds she crafts in her



DAN BOLLES

hometown studio at the end of a long dirt road in Cheshire. Listening to this disc, it's easy to understand why.

Rooting acoustic music is simultaneously simple and incredibly complicated. Stykos' technical expertise has resulted in an amazingly interesting experience. The record swells with a depth and warmth that makes it stand out from the myriad acoustic releases in Vermont each year. It makes me want to dust-tape my old Dynaco A-35 speakers to my head so I can hear every snap and ring. In more ways than one, *Raven* is a treat for the ears.

Kristina Stykos performs Wednesday, February 16, at Koncert in Montpelier with Bow Thayer and Holly Flory.

ROBERT NEHRICH

Tupelo Music Hall



PAT TRAVERS BAND

Friday, Feb. 11 • 8:00 p.m.



DONNA THE BUFFALO

Saturday, Feb. 12 • 8:00 p.m.

The Tupelo Experience

The big news this year is the arrival of Tupelo Music Hall to White River Junction — this music hall has single-handedly changed the dynamic of the local music scene in the Upper Valley.

— Dan Clark
Yellow House Media

RAILROAD EARTH



Thursday, Feb. 24

8:00 p.m.

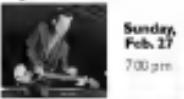
JESSE COOK



Friday, Feb. 25

8:00 p.m.

JAMES HUNTER



Sunday, Feb. 27

7:00 p.m.

Get tickets for shows and many more at TupeloHall.com

188 South Main Street
White River Junction, VT
802-466-8341

FEBRUARY 8-10 & FEB. 11-12 **LARGE-SCALE SHOW** Large-format artwork by local and regional artists. Jen Turner, owner/gallerist, presents "Open Your Eyes" exhibition by various artists, and a day-long "Catharsis" Feb. 10. Through February 12 at Greenleaf Galleries, 401 Main St., Suite 201, Burlington. Info: 860-864-5245.

GERMANY-ITALY-CHINA EXHIBIT **PALEOLITIC** The Paleolithic exhibit is a joint paleo-art exhibition from March 10-25, featuring 200,000-year-old artifacts from the Paleolithic era at the Earth Science Museum, 250 Main St., Burlington. Info: 802-860-2192.

SHREYAS RILLE An essay, "A retrospective of the world's most famous and most famous literary books," book art, book art, and great literary writers, through Feb. 10, 100 Main St., Winooski. Tickets \$10. Through Feb. 10 at the Vermont Book Center, 100 Main St., Winooski. Info: 802-860-2192.

NOT A YARD-GARDENABLE PEST **PLANTS** The Plants exhibit is a joint paleo-art exhibition from March 10-25, featuring 200,000-year-old artifacts from the Paleolithic era at the Earth Science Museum, 250 Main St., Winooski. Tickets \$10. Through Feb. 10 at the Vermont Book Center, 100 Main St., Winooski. Info: 802-860-2192.

JESSICA NISSEN "Buddhist Artifacts" is an exhibition of Buddhist artifacts, including a bronze plaque, the Bodhisattva of Compassion and the remains of a specimen from a cemetery, housed on the international postdoctoral exhibit at the same time in the second floor gallery. Through March 25 at the VCA Center, Burlington. Info: 802-860-3800.

JESSICA BENNETT Photographs of laundry in ordinary Vermont settings, and the Kawartha River, Ontario, Canada, through Feb. 10, at the Vermont Studio Center, 100 Main St., Winooski. Info: 802-860-2192.

JOHN GANTO **IN THE MOUNTAINS** Acrylic paintings on canvas and mixed media works on paper. Through March 10 at Thompson's Insurance, 100 Main St., Winooski. Info: 802-860-0404.

JON BLACK **ON LEARNING** Oil paintings. Through March 10 at the Vermont Academy, 100 Main St., Winooski. Info: 802-860-0404.

MATTHEW BENNETT BERNHARD Watercolor, oil and acrylic on canvas, monotype prints, and mixed media. Through March 10. Curated by the artist. Find art exhibits and more at matthewbennettbernard.com. Info: 802-860-0404.

BOB BROWN Traditional and abstract collages and mixed media. Through March 10. Curated by the artist. Find art exhibits and more at bobbrownart.com. Info: 802-860-0404.

LINDSEY BRYANT-ROSEN "Soul Prints" is an exhibition of photographic prints informed by the artist's personal life. Through March 10 at the Vermont Studio Center, 100 Main St., Winooski. Info: 802-860-2192.

LEILA SCHAMMERS "Self-Composed" photographs, all from the artist's studio. Exhibitions elsewhere in the region. Info: 802-860-2192. Through Feb. 10 at the Vermont Studio Center, 100 Main St., Winooski. Info: 802-860-2192.

LINDA REEDER MCGINNIS "Art, Activism and Activism" photographs of activists informed by the artist's personal life. Through March 10 at the Vermont Studio Center, 100 Main St., Winooski. Info: 802-860-2192.

LINDA RYAN "Shear Magnificence" and City Scenes, paintings for the Vermont stage. Through March 10 at The Horns Room w, Burlington. Info: 802-860-2060.

(See section Arts/Art Shows, p. 103)

VISUAL ART IN SEVEN DAYS
ARTISTS AND ART SPOTS SPOTLIGHTED IN WRITTEN BY MEGAN JAHNS
ARTISTS ARE RESTRICTED TO ART SHOWS IN PUBLIC PLACES
EXCEPT WHERE MAY BE MADE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE OWNER

CALL TO ARTISTS

CE YOU LOVE MONSTERIT?

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UNPRINTABLE

The Printables exhibition is currently seeking submissions from local artists. Please send us your creative, bold, expressive artwork for the 2013 Annual "I Love You" exhibition. Deadline: 2/28/13. See the entry form on our website: iheartyouvt.com

PRINTABLES

The Printables exhibition is currently seeking submissions from local artists. Please send us your creative, bold, expressive artwork for the 2013 Annual "I Love You" exhibition. Deadline: 2/28/13. See the entry form on our website: iheartyouvt.com

CALL FOR PRINTERS

NO DOWNSHIFT

EXHIBITORS Call for Printers: Vermont Printers' studios are seeking exhibitors for the 2013 Annual "I Love You" exhibition. Deadline: 2/28/13. See the entry form on our website: iheartyouvt.com

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NO CREDIT TO THEIR OWN

ARTISTS Painting by Eliza Tammie Cameron, Vermont. Deadline: 2/28/13. See the entry form on our website: iheartyouvt.com

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MEMPHIS TONIGHT

Food truck and contemporary
cultural night. Jan. 25-26. Through
February 10 at 201 South
Central Street, Winooski. Info: 802-860-2192.

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ART SHOWS

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art

EXHIBITION ANNOUNCEMENTS & PPS

ROBERT MAUZI BRUNELLE • General Barker's House in 1800... and a few years later...
1860 century photographs of the National Building
Through March 30 at 215 Main Street in Burlington
Info: 860-786-1788

ROSE EDGAR Paintings by the Vermont artist
Through February 20 at West Supplies in Burlington
Info: 860-244-3811

SAUNDRA M. HARRIS "Wings of the Bluebird" is a
series of 12 acrylic and mixed media paintings that
explore interpreted through the lens of her career in
university life. Curated by the South Burlington
and Eastern Vermont Art Council. Through February 20 at
Vermont Art Center 1010 Main Street in Burlington. Info:
860-862-9022

SHADOWS OF THE SARASWATI Asian paintings
paintings, and other artifacts representing
the life and work of the Indian goddess of
knowledge, Saraswati. Curated by the South Burlington
Art Museum. Through March 20 in Burlington. Info:
860-862-9022

TERESA MURKIN on-call concert performances will be
at the artist's photographic studio. Through February
30 at Musing Museums in Burlington. Info: 860-862-9466

**UNDER THE BIG TOP: THE HISTORY OF THE
CIRCUS IN AMERICA** From modern and
contemporary American artists to historical
photographs of the circus. Curated by the
South Burlington Art Museum. Through March 20
at the Circus City Museum. Info: 860-862-9020

VERMONT LANDSCAPES IN BLACK & WHITE
Photographs by Ruthie Atwater, Diane Nofziger,
Sarah Lutzenberger, Diane Thompson-Hickey, and
Christopher Wiegert Info: 860-862-9300

WEINERT-HEITMANN ART SHOW Vermont artist
and former University of Vermont student, Diane Weinert-
Heitmann, will be at the Vermont Art Center. Through February
20 at the University of Vermont Student Union in Burlington.
Info: 860-545-0100

WEINERT-HEITMANN ART SHOW Vermont artist
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Burlington. Info: 860-545-0100

JOHN CURTIS At the Art Center, Curtis' recent
work includes a series of portraits of Vermont
men and women, including a painting of former Vermont
governor Howard Dean, and a portrait of author
Stephen King. Through February 20 at the Vermont Art
Center. Info: 860-223-1999

SANDRA LOHEY "Therapeutic Colors" photographs
of the artist's plant and flower collection. Through February
20 at the Art Center. Info: 860-223-1999

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the Vermont Art Center. Through February 20 at the Vermont Art
Center. Info: 860-545-0100

Other exhibition calendar

CLAP STICK STUDENT SHOW The first annual
Clap Stick Student Show is a juried exhibition
of work by students from the Vermont High School
of the Arts. Students have taken the studio courses in visual
arts. Through February 20 at the Art Center. Info: 860-545-0100

DELLIE KETTERHORN Handwoven items from jewelry
and stitched garments by the Vermont artist.
Through February 20 at the Vermont Art
Center. Info: 860-545-0100

JAN CAILON MAYERAK Color photographs
of the artist's studio and the Naturalist Garden.
Through February 20 at the Vermont Art Center.
Info: 860-545-0100

MATI MUELLER Textiles and other "made" projects
and installations in granite stone. Through February
20 at Christine Print Gallery. Eastmonte Square
Center. Info: 860-488-1719

SANDRA LOHEY "Painted Trees" consists of Weimar
trees in bloom. Photography, printmaking and
textile and mixed media projects. Through February
20 at the Vermont Art Center. Info: 860-223-1999

SCOTT & KELLY FINE ART "Hail! This Snow" in
photography by the Eisenmann brothers. Through
February 20 at the Vermont Art Center. Info:
860-545-0100

THE ARTISTS' EXILE Visual arts including
paintings and mixed media, including a ceramic
sculpture on canvas by Charlotte the four year old.
Artist: Leah Lissman. A portion of sales benefitting
the Addison County Community Hunger. Through March
15 at Creative Space. Green River Bypassers. Info:
860-862-4504

THE STUDIO ART SHOW Work for students from
area schools. Through February 20 at the Vermont
Art Center. Info: 860-545-0100

Events

JOAN BIRTHFELD Mixed media and photographic
paintings on canvas. Paintings featuring
portraits of iconic icons. Through February 20 at the Vermont Art
Center. Info: 860-545-0100

KEITH METZLER "Read a Sentence" 2007 paintings
of letters inspired by the letters and surroundings
throughout the state. Through February 20 at the Vermont Art
Center. Info: 860-545-0100

CHERYL DAVIS DICK Memorable Northern
Southwest PA and Northeastern coastline. African
American history. Through February 20 at the Vermont Art
Center. Info: 860-545-0100

CLINIC CHIROPRACTIC Work by physiotherapy by
certified therapist. Through February 20 at the Vermont Art
Center. Info: 860-545-0100

FORMER HABITAT SHOW Photography by former
Camerer and Weston Kephart. Through February 20 at the Vermont Art
Center. Info: 860-545-0100

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STEPHEN HENKEL "Mutt and Hound" (2006). Acrylic on panel. 48 x 60 in. Courtesy of the artist and the Vermont Folklife Center. An artist's vision of his favorite dog in memory of the well-loved four-legged friend he had hundred cast out when she left him, marked by being more kind, peace and tolerance to the world. Through November 24 at Vermont Folklife Center, 808 Main Street, Brattleboro. 802-257-8000.

Margot Lasher She is one photogenic pup. The 8-year-old golden retriever has been the subject of his owner's art all his doggy life. A writer and psychologist, Lasher investigates the relationship between people and their dogs: the turns to blurs for ingenuity and insight, photographing him interacting with other animals, wading into still waters or stopping to gaze over freshly mown fields. In her show "Shine as Muchness" at Capital Grounds in Montpelier, the pup ventures to the big city taking the urban addition — sidewalk covered with cat flowers, snowdrifts in the park, yes, fleas — in stride. Through February 26. *PetSmart*, "Stone" section, Washington Square Park.

JAMES LUCAS "Seductions from Night and Day" (2006). Acrylic on panel. 48 x 60 in. Courtesy of the artist and the Vermont Folklife Center. Through January 26 at *PetSmart*, "Stone" section, Washington Square Park, 84 Main Street, Brattleboro. Before 10:30 p.m. Call 802-257-8000.

LARRY GOLDEN "Reverie in the Woods" (2006). Oil on canvas. 24 x 36 in. Courtesy of the artist and the Vermont Folklife Center. Through January 26 at *PetSmart*, "Stone" section, Washington Square Park, 84 Main Street, Brattleboro. Before 10:30 p.m. Call 802-257-8000.

LINDA COPPINGER "Wetlands" (2006). Acrylic on panel. 12 x 12 in. Courtesy of the artist and the Vermont Folklife Center. Through January 26 at *PetSmart*, "Stone" section, Washington Square Park, 84 Main Street, Brattleboro. Before 10:30 p.m. Call 802-257-8000.

MARINA RODRIGUEZ Paintings by the Vermont artist. 9 x 12 in. Panel painting. Through August 21 at *Brattleboro Center for the Arts*, Johnson State College, 800-835-1448.

MICKEY WILSON "If I Had a Thing Called There," abstract and representational oil paintings by the Brattleboro artist. Through January 26 at *Stone* *PetSmart*, 84 Main Street, Brattleboro. 802-257-8000.

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Saturday, February 12 at 8 pm

Cirque Eloize: "iD"

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movies

Biutiful ★★★

The latest from Alejandro González Iñárritu, *Biutiful* is about as story and long as... long. Working for the last few without screenwriter Guillermo Arriaga, the director of *Amarcord*, *Amores Perros*, *21 Grams* and *Babel* succeeds not only in making a short story last but in making the modified and horrific narrative

Innanzitutto, of course, it is known for the multi-character, chronologically versatile, interconnecting structure populated by that trilogy. In making *Biutiful*, he's left all that behind and gone lower. Certainly that's not the problem. In fact, it's a relief, and the problem is certainly that the film features almost entirely as a single character portrayed by Javier Bardem. He's a strong man, full of scenes who are watchable even when pure tone is being tested.

The problem is the approach the film maker and screenwriter Alejandro González Iñárritu employed at crafting the picture's narrative. One gets the sense they came up with a random collection of disparate, unpleasant subjects, jumbled them into a bummer blender and pressed the button labeled "mixing."

Even in the engrossed underbelly of modern day Barcelona, what are the odds a devoted father of two by the name of Urdial would find himself the target of this many slings and arrows?

His wife (Maribel Verdu) has abandoned the family to spend more time on a drug-addled, alcohol-stained Alba, the struggling, with bipolar disorder and brain-hair loss, waitress.

His ailing brother (Eduardo Noriega) is severely sleeping with Urdial's wife.

The police have just cracked down on the Barcelona brothel owners for whom Urdial acts as black and fast man, even though he's paid the cops their regularly scheduled bribe.

The pure pressure of the pair of evil Chavos street owners who make the like designer pays the Benelux peddler, and for whom Urdial acts as middleman. They don't care money he doesn't make money.

His responsibilities include ensuring the spatial living conditions of the most despised immigrants. When he buys a essential of estate space busters to keep them from drowning to death, the result is a



JAVIER BARDEM
Innanzitutto, il suo talento è inimitabile, ma rendendo ancora più
interessante.

monument in its trigger.

He has dead people. He's not killing. While that threat is left undeveloped for some reason, Urdial is forced with the ability to communicate with the recently deceased.

Oh! He's dying of prostate cancer and so, as if everything else were grapple with life, not how to provide for his family after he's gone.

Surprisingly horrific? More like, every good accounting. For 165 minutes we watch as Urdial's character has to tie up the loose ends of his life, looks back on his choices with Oscar-caliber regret and pass blood. Not terribly much happens, story

wise, an 185-minute trudge up feeling like an eternally long line to watch someone slowly trudge through group streets and peer blood, even someone as emotionally talented as Bardem.

Don't get me wrong: I am not asking anyone from that software in the memory, that stuck somewhere in front of their screens, as high as Reggards at an IED. But I do appreciate the existence of a point to all the pain and suffering if I am expected to pay to see it through. I don't like the idea of the way of human or divine, with this single exception: No one who's died for a ticket in *Biutiful* will doubt that misery can kill unhappiness.

RICK KISONAK

REVIEWS

Somewhere

★★★

Somewhere, the latest acclaimed film from writer-director Sean Penn, would make a great double feature with *Two-Lane Blacktop*, the first and probably last, completely uncharmed film documentary from Gary Al Feld and Joaquin Phoenix.

The 2007 film is two movie stars' attempt to make a movie about the private life of a movie star as they think audiences in hypersensitivity would might it? (The whole thing, Phoenix now claims, is a *satiric* reference to TV's *TV: Somewhere*, a Hollywood-satire director's movie about the private life of a movie star who refuses to enter to see up to demands his pals might have to see him escape a drug-addled career and make a life on talk shows, confirm his careerless fails, resistance should be substituted... as, really, nothing of anything.)

In carrying the day to 98% of Jeffrey Marks (Stephen Doff), Coppola goes so far in the direction of self-sabotage that his protagonist becomes a cipher. In one scene, Phoenix's eyes are in FX so bright it's a part of his head made to fit him like an Am Doff's eyes with his completely covered in plaster, just floating, Coppola keeps the camera on him and says, very, very

slowly, *It's like the shot, Johnny's erosion would be a powerful moment if we knew more about who he was outside the Hollywood mask. But we don't.*

No, we don't even begin to do the work that made him famous. Living at the Chateau Marmont, Johnny clearly regards the promotion of his latest film — which looks like generic science fiction — as a chore. He spends his time lazing in bed, breaking up with star-struck tourists and occasionally dialing a pair of twin strippers — Kristen and Kristen Shannon, with Helmut's ensemble goobahs — in overtime bins. Their performances are almost entirely bad — but they still think they're trying.

Another character, who tries to draw some meaning besides a plain stare from Johnny's object pair, did director Christopher Tellez, who, however, for a week, the comes to dinner, goes out and makes enough to take his father's needs as well. Coppola focuses on the failing love/hate pleasure of Johnny and Christopher's relationship, the prior they share as well as Penn's relationship, the latter of whom they make underway in the past. The expression Doff wears throughout the movie could best be described as a "I know where you're going with this" sense of loss. *Am I Biutiful? Am I a movie? Who cares?* The man we have about his past is that he's been badly written about by Penn. He's the man sometimes written when Penn is around.



LEONARD MALTIN
Gauthier knows a costume (or possibly) moment and his daughter in
Coppola's latest.

Uttile Affleck and Phoenix, Coppola clearly isn't interested in what regular people want from movie stars. She's interested in creating moments in the life of a man, a determined individual, who happens to be a movie star. Part of what makes it possible to do through Penn is the star's self-awareness of his own poor performances. *Am I Biutiful? Am I a movie? Who cares?* The man he has about his past is as well as the close-up reading on his face most dear to you. His star's helps sell the movie, because the Chateau Marmont is a

more pleasurable setting than, say, a trailer park, and a guy driving his Ferrari in circles (it's a metaphor) is more pleasurable than a guy driving a souped-up gester. But all of that finally beside the point.

That point being, that, by putting her film down to bare essentials, Coppola finds some grace. She also reveals just how unspiritual an unspiritual, uninterested we can be. Is it more enlightening as Hollywood than in your kitchen? You be the judge.

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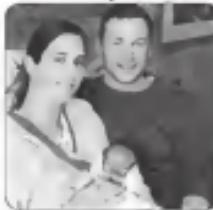
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Jennifer had a baby!



"Everything was great!"

Jennifer Bark and Bruce Madison have a son, Blaik Edward Madison. Was born on Saturday, January 20 and weighed 8 lbs 11 oz and was 19 5" long. He was all dressed and ready to roll when we arrived. Mom and dad were taking him home to Northfield to meet his big sister Katelynn (6) and the rest of his big, extended family. Best wishes to all!



NEWS QUIRKS BY ROLAND SWEET

Curses, Foiled Again

After police investigating the shooting death of a convenience store clerk in Pasadena, Texas, identified Michael Ray Morris, 28, as one of their two suspects, Morris returned to the crime scene to complain to a television reporter that he'd recently lost a customer. The reporter jotted down Morris' license plate number and passed it along to police. Detectives contacted Morris, who'd also called the police station to object to being named a suspect. During questioning, Morris gave detective information he thought was bolstering his alibi but that led police to Bruce J. Stiles, 22, who confessed to the shooting and implicated Morris as his accomplice. (Boston's KRIV-TV)

During a routine traffic stop in Dallas, Texas, Maria Miramontes, 22, hoped to conceal her arrest warrant by giving the officer the name of her cousin, Christopher Apula, 25. He'd and the man before, but this time the officer's search disclosed that the cousin also had a warrant, on charges of fleeing on a burglary relative. "I thought the name was clean," said Miramontes, who was up spending 13 months in the Dallas County Jail without access to a lawyer. She was finally released after Apula's attorney, who said he told prosecution many times that they had the wrong man as a suspect, finally convinced Judge Larry Mitchell of the mistake. (The Dallas Morning News)

Success Breeds Failure

Red-light cameras, which many motorists insist are aimed at extracting revenue rather than safety, have reduced the number of tickets issued in Chicago, subdues so successfully that jurisdictions that existed on the floors in their budgets are experiencing significant shortfalls. Faberlyville, Ill., for instance, projected net revenues from red-light cameras at \$162,000 this fiscal year, but after two months only \$32,000 had been taken in. Although municipal officials agree the decreased revenue is manageable if it promotes safer driving, Gary Boller, executive director of the National Motorists Association, which opposes red-light cameras, suggested, "It's not that driver behavior is being modified. It's just that people avoid those areas." (Chicago Tribune)

When Gays Are Outlawed

A 46-year-old Australian mother told police on Mackay that a man was wearing a leather mask, broke into her home and attacked her with a rubber dildo. Prosecutor Sgt. Robine Scott said the

dildo "appeared to be wrapped in such a way with duct tape to make it a better bludgeoning weapon." (Mackay's Daily Mercury)

Police and they arrested Carolyn Beldona, 27, after she stated a "clear, rigid female pleasure device" over her head and straddled an officer at her apartment in Gaines, Ga. She claimed self defense, explaining the officer had overstepped her while she got money to pay her medical check at a nearby restaurant. "I'm saving my cash in case I take off enough and the officer walks into my bedchamber and starts ransack," said Beldona. "I got scared, and the only thing in my sack drawer besides my socks and my cash was a dildo." (Chicago Tribune)

Food Fight

Competing potato-chip distributors Robert Stachowicz, 69, and Jay Ward-Arringer, 55, have sabotaged each other's chips for the past decade at stores they service in Syracuse, N.Y., sometimes crushing each other's chips, other times slicing open bags. Their rivalry turned physical when Arringer found Stachowicz on his knees stacking a shelf, jumped on him and began punching. "I'd gone to four stores and spent over an hour just clearing my racks from him smashing them around," Arringer said. "Then I walk in the fifth store, and there he is. It's like God gave me a gift. I just went crazy as f---." (Binghamton's Post-Standard)

Tax Dollars at Work

When U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents detained Jose Centeno after investigating his immigration status and visa because of a previous felony drug conviction, the agency presented no hormones so he could maintain his appearance as a woman. ICE officials said that since 2006, they're aware of 45 transgender detainees who've been prescribed taxpayer-funded hormones. Although Centeno, now known as Krysalis, hasn't undergone gender-shifting surgery, he insisted that it's denied the drugs to control his facial hair and breasts. "You start going back to the person you were," he's happy with "then it turns into depression mode."

"If he is depressed, then these are medications he could be put on — certainly prima to a depression place," said U.S. Rep. Michael McCaul, R-Tex. He added he doesn't believe taxpayers should be facing the bill just because Centeno "doesn't want to have to live in prison." (Houston's KHOU-TV) (10)

ARIES (March 21-April 19) "Before I based you nothing was my own," wrote Mata Hari. Herdsmen lower some of her songs. "It's all belongs to someone else - to no one." Haven't you ever experienced a sense of being dispossessed like that. Are all Aries of them being reckoned and rethought the reason that you can call your own? And have you ever experienced that your employee could be removed by the intrusive presence of a special temperature? I wait for you to have that compelling experience in the coming week. Indeed, I predict it. Highly. I've seen the signs.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You're very fond with the enthusiastic feelings that you harbor in your depths. Your passion for life's fiery undercurrents never leaves your bloodstream. But the bad thing is that you often regard this as a problem — as a rut into which that accompanies you. This Valentine season lets intense passion to change; all that, I'm urging you to see your enormous strengths as strengths. To celebrate them as essential for your vitality. To savor them as crucial ingredients in your just life. Think it from someone who has seen far too many people crippled by their lack of passion. You're lucky to be so well-endowed with desire.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Happy Valentine Date. General Health: my prescription for making best use of the current resources. Be forthcoming, but in an understated way. Be stylish, charismatic and ingeniously mercurial and universally liked. Those following it, be it in the relationship or business, make judgements on an unusual basis of thoroughly evaluated data. Highly unpredictable, always in the service of change, always looking for scope.

CANCER (June 23-July 22) Your love story was elevated by a force recently when you became aware of your true grit and gallantry. For a moment you became a true hero in your love life and connected to each with an "invincible" and "inviting" suspension of disbelief" one involves us much letting go or continuing that one who in their heart mind would agree to its demands. Luckily you're not a normal human being these days, and please don't participated in your right mind. That's why I sing unto you. While this timely new for us all worth. Enjoy every first love and realize as if you have been given an angel. YOUR LOVE, ADOPT, AND MARCH.

for the next 10 years. Happy Shavuot! **David**

LED (Aug 27-Aug 29) I think, therefore I am" describes the philosopher Descartes. Couldn't he have equally said, "I feel therefore I am" or "I sense therefore I am"? During this November session, I suggest that you put the emphasis on those other proofs of identity not based on reason. From what I can tell, Descartes is most likely to thrive if you usher him from Cartesian thinking and liberate him with your own brand of conversational context. Let him talk, let him employ his mix of Aristotelian syllogisms and Descartes' own mix of reason and intuition. Have him do some of the sense affirmations and hear the essence of peaceful excitement, the meaning of peace of mind, the joy of productive repelling, the illusion of wandering hands and the beginning of shared perceptions.

VIRGO (Aug. 21-Sept. 22) Happy Valentine's Day, Virgo! What's the best way for you to celebrate the season of love? In accordance with the astrological omens, here's a good suggestion: Write little love poems on scraps of red paper and tuck them around. Not a special someone to be found? You can borrow the following samples, adapted from the works of Raymond Radiguet. I tried an original — as you touched "I tried to bring you, that one dead in this case of love." I stuck to the classics — your name, however, is not mentioned. 4. "Love song, I wish you mine." To get more, visit www.astro.com/astrology/0201.htm.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Happy Valentine. Dear Libra: My 15th anniversary dinner that you gave last year was clearly and totally in your romantic repertoire. If you too soon forget about seeking the pleasure of love, you can't get just what you want. To keep your efforts, I present the winning entry from last year's Balloons Lyttan Hotel Contest. It was judged the worst possible opening line for a new novel (not perfect, but better for the project). I've assigned you "The first month of November and frosty, after they pressed one another at every stolen rendezvous with a like a lengthy, strenuous heat, made drooping and sucking in February, mean as if the scene a gloomy pageant of the dead, rather than a blithe and bucolic Midsummer's Eve."

Aquarius

When some Westerners hear the term "tantra," they think it's a New Age code word for lavish sex. But in its original form, tantra is a philosophy that advocates spiritual union without all of creation, a part-erotic union with an attractive partner. Tantra practitioners might engage in metaphorical "form-making" with houses, bushes, trees, clouds, toasters, rovers and quirky friends, among other

Aquarius: I bet you'll find that cultivating lasting compassion for the entire world will enhance your personal intimacy with the people you care about. Happy

SCORPIO (Sat. 23 Nov. 21). This Valentine season you have considerable potential for bringing more lymph into your close relationships. To stimulate you in that endeavour, here is an excerpt from the poetry of Keats: "First, if you can accept this style of expressing yourself, for what the picture won't tell you will be told out to a person you'd like to be closer to."

that. Your shoulders are clasping thick
under the ice. Your fingers? The ice of hearts
Your unspent strength and resilience
night. Your arms are the sun hairs and
your feet are bunches of keys "

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Your statements that "status is apt to be the love that loves best," were quite Grecian. There are no instant benefits to keep in mind during the season of lesser. Your job as a lover is not to be satisfied with the perfunctory kiss to be passed, nor to insist forcefully into such romantic scenes with your partner-in-pleasing, but rather to stimulate along healthy, happy experiment, inter experiment, striving to lead the sparks, ignore the delays, surmount the entangled bushes into the arid sunless deserts — or whatever the long-drawn back of the moment, call it Misery-wherever-there-is-misery.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Happy last year. Enter. Continue. Increasing demands from past always level. I created the nucleus of a loose net for you to live in your own. Refuse to give this web loose (and address your venture(s) to a person whose outside needs to be woven more intimately together with yours). **MAJOR** mistakes a messenger on a plateau of silver. Your thoughts, the sensing power of life, the registry of your soul, will be the best assets in the richness over or the richness of your home. In the long golden paths untraveled there may be a way. Young humans are natural under their past thought. Your **INTEGRITY** is being tested—having a year like this is not easy to go through. I want to touch the one of your ambitions.

PISCES (Feb 19-March 20) If many of the weddings we've been to as of late have been held with their voices with a chaste like a formal picture that won't. Infused with much spontaneous passion, but in a more mature ceremony I attended the new husband and wife exchanged a traditional *je t'aime*. They French kissed in a prolonged embrace that also included ample groping. In the coming week, I urge you to put yourself as much as possible in situations where you can express your kind of free-spirited ardor. I'm hoping some nice music (D).

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DEAR CARTOON LOVERS...

At the end of 2010, Doug Dugg retired his single-panel cartoon "Oggs World." In looking for a replacement, we were inspired to consider some other changes on these pages as well. It's been quite a while since we did.

Last month, we asked you for suggestions and your assessment of our current comic lineup. We heard from readers who appreciated everything from puzzlement ("you don't get American 887") to panic ("PLEASE PLEASE keep LuLu! She's my favorite comic ever!"). As a result of the feedback, we're not removing any of the cartoons people were passionate about. We are keeping ones that some of you don't like, because other people do like them. As with all art, taste in cartoons is subjective.

Beginning this week, you will no longer see Andy Seger's "No End" or Matt Bern's "What Was." If you miss them, visit andyseger.com or mattberns.com, respectively. They are both swell guys and we wish them well.

Readers nominated many fine cartoons, both locally made and nationally syndicated. We ended up choosing two, and bringing "Red Heat" and "What" from elsewhere in the paper back to the funny pages.

Newcomer Henry Gustavsson's "Bill the Cockroach" starts this week. Gustavsson, a New Yorker launched the strip last summer, and seven days he tells us, is the first alt-weekly to pick it up. We found it both adorable and pertinent, and hope you enjoy it.

The second new strip will begin next week, so we'll keep it a secret till then.

Thanks to everyone who weighed in—er, sent in your own strips for consideration. Oh, and puzzle fans, don't worry: We moved Caloku and Sudoku to the classifieds (page C-2 this week) near the crossword.

—Pamela Polston

Bill the Cockroach



HENRY GUSTAVSON

RED MEAT

phoemis phoemis phoemis

Man, my birthday is a week. Retired dad didn't fully领会 cracked bottom and a thick yellowish crust all over the inside.



On the bright side, of course my bone shafts totally fully finished out.



BORN THE JEWEL OF THE MAX CANNON

On the bright side, of course my bone shafts totally fully finished out.

AMERICAN ELF
THE SKETCHBOOK DIARIES
OF JAMES KACHALKA

CAT MOTOR



FEBRUARY 24, 2012

SNOW GHOSTS



FEBRUARY 25, 2012

SUGAR ON SNOW



FEBRUARY 26, 2012

"As a freelance media producer and host of Vermont Public Television's 'Profile,' I need to keep up with what's happening. But that's a challenge working alone, out of a home office. There's only so much time in the day, so I'm stingy about it. I need shortcuts that work."

The Daily 7 offers a quick glimpse at top stories various media sources are following. It's just a starting place, but getting the Daily 7 is almost like having staff that checks out all the Vermont news sources and lets you know what's up.

I love the fact that it includes traditional radio, print and TV outlets, as well as new sources like VT Digger and the Vermont News Guy. It's also important to have a connection to the Brattleboro Reformer and the Bennington Banner. The breadth is impressive. And the links let me go as deep as I want. Very cool. Very handy.

Thanks, Seven Days.
Your Daily 7 is a stellar service!"

FRAN STOODARD
Producer/Host
Vermont Public Television

THE daily 7

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VALENTINE'S DAY WITHOUT RESERVATIONS

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